

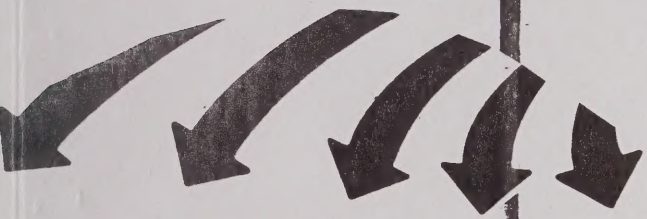
PRISON FOR WOMEN
P.O. Box 515,
KINGSTON, Ontario. K7L 4W7

tightwire

VOL. 23 NO. 3

FALL ISSUE / 89

DEVASTATING



THERE ARE MANY FORMS OF
CONFINEMENT
ALL DEVASTATING!

THIS ISSUE CONTAINS :-

PERSONAL VIEW POINTS ON
CONFINEMENT

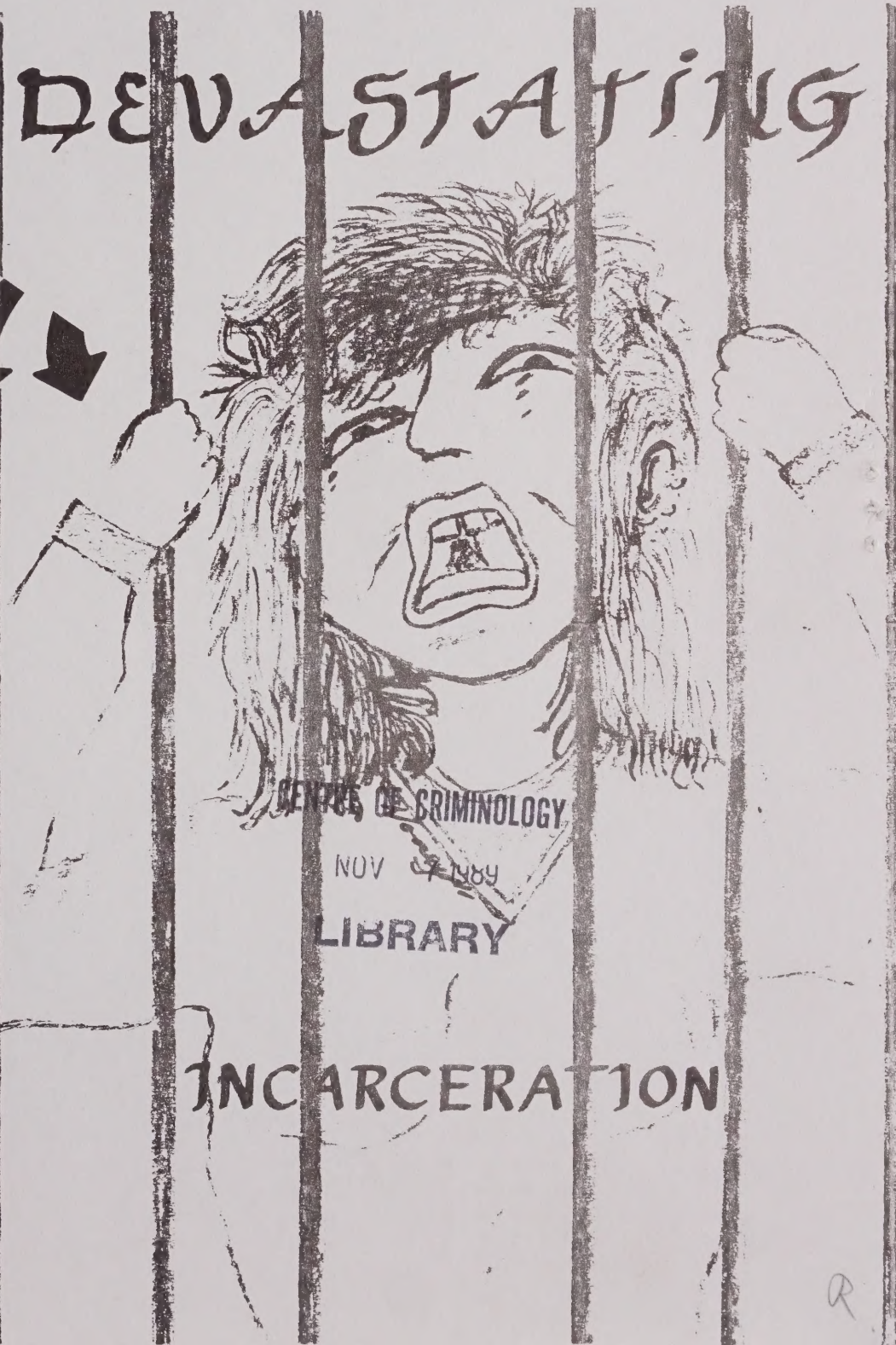
* INCARCERATION

Top Male/Female
Federal Institutions
in CANADA / IRELAND

* EXPOSE ON ST. THOMAS
PSYCH. HOSPITAL

* MIND / SPIRIT

AWARENESS TO THESE
PROBLEMS IS THE 1ST
STEP TOWARDS RELIEF!





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T I G H T W I R E

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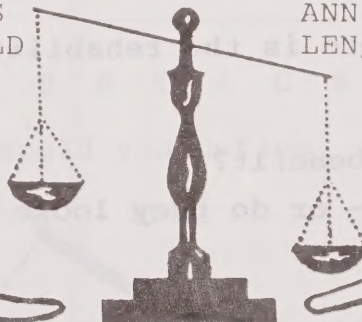
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TIGHTWIRE is a quarterly publication by the Federal Prisoners at the **Prison For Women** in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. All material is subject to Censorship by the Administration prior to printing.

* OVER 90% of content within this publication, together with all typesetting, layout and design work - including the printing is done within the walls of P4W by the population.

EDITORIAL

In this fall issue of TIGHTWIRE, we have endeavoured to address the issue of CONFINEMENT, in particular - incarceration.

The articles contained within, are based on factual and first hand accounts of experiences, feelings and pleas to better the system with respect to INCARCERATION.

Incarceration is devastating irregardless of the circumstances involved.

No longer do we, the incarcerated have choices. We are completely governed by countless rules and regulations - freedom in the broadest sense is only a thing of the past.

Conditions may vary from institutions to institutions, to Country to Country, however, we ALL share a common ground - "complete loss of control" in our lives. Similar feelings of despair, loneliness, rejection and ultimately hopelessness are prevalent amongst us and we often live within a vacuum of hate, fear and cruelty.

Where IS the JUSTICE? Where is the rehabilitation? Where is the S E N S E to it all?

- Do the incarcerated benefit?
- Does society gain? - or do they loose and inevitably suffer the consequences?

I have to question, powers to be in government, their reasoning, their logic with respect to what they perceive as JUSTICE.

These governed bodies - are they simply concerned with "short term" solutions - "quick fixes", extracting the criminal from society for an X period of time, with no contemplation or even caring - what society maybe faced with upon re-entry of this individual to their world.

The outcome is not favourable one, in fact quite the contrary, proving in many instances, far more detrimental to society, then even originally.

The convict, walks away from being in this "present" system, sometimes with feelings of rebellion, fear and insecurity - how then, do you "society", expect we the convict to fit neatly into preconceived slots in "your" world, without firstly allowing us to grow and experience all facets of same.

Can you not comprehend, the BOTTOM LINE - we are L O C K E D away and know not of "your" world - because your world, is not "our" world any longer. We've lost essential touch and basic reality and desperately need "hands on training" to re-enter society and function normally within the guide lines of same.

There is an URGENT need to reevaluate the "penal system" in its entirety - if you do not - you have only yourselves to blame - when "your" world possibly one day - becomes ours.

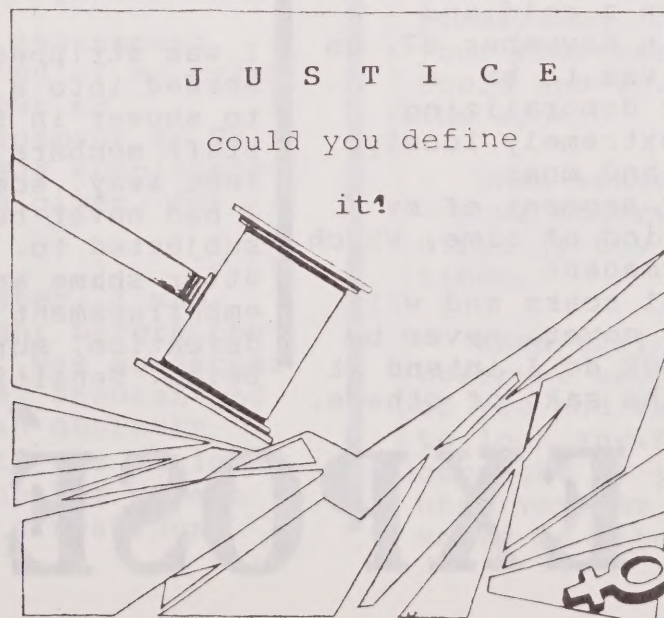
PLEASE NOTE:-

Lorlie Boyland

Editor

All opinions and views expressed in TIGHTWIRE are those of the authors and not the magazine, nor the administration.

"I invite our readership to respond to this editorial, positively or otherwise - we look forward to your views".



ST. THOMAS » H PSYCH. O HOSPITAL

ST. THOMAS, ONTARIO.

A horrendous and disturbing factual - first hand account of "INSIDE" the St. Thomas facility - from a patients' point of view

Horrifying, disturbing, completely incomprehensible - are only a few terms to describe "my confinement" at St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital.

I was sent to a supposedly top-notch, highly respected, prominent psychiatric facility in the country, for assessment purposes only.

I arrived at the St. Thomas Institution on a cold and dreary day in November 87, to begin, what was to be, a phenomenally demoralizing, degrading, extremely lonely, devastating and most "HORRIFYING" segment of my life. A period of time, which has left permanent physiological scars and will consequently never, never be forgotten, NOR do I intend it to be, for the sake of others.

41 years of age - never in conflict with the law previously - your average middle-class, respected individual.

I was extracted from the community without notice and was sent to St. Thomas, for an assessment.

Upon arrival - what they term "ORIENTATION" began immediately.

I was stripped and literally herded into a stall and forced to shower in front of several staff members, who stood only feet away, something of which, I had never before, been subjected to. Feelings of utter shame and complete embarrassment together with defeatism, surfaced within my being. Sensitivity played no

EXPOSÉ

role, during this processing procedure and compassion was nowhere to be found. Quite the contrary - power-tripping seemed to be the order of the day!

I was then brought before a panel of approximately twenty individuals - comprised of staff members and other patients - no qualified psychiatric help was in attendance. I was subjected to intense and relentless interrogation of a FEROCIOUS nature, for approximately one hour. At the end of this highly intensified procedure, I collapsed and was taken to a cell and placed within - wearing only a security night gown and laid upon a cold, concrete floor - for you see, there was NO bed, there was NO mattress, there was NO blanket.....

As I lay there, in a state of shock, confusion and fear, with my cheek against the concrete floor and as the tears were over-flowing - I wanted to die.

"The INHUMANITY, that I was subjected to - was too much for me to bear."

I was "ONLY" an assessment person - convicted of no crime and yet throughout my horrendous confinement at St. Thomas - there was absolutely no consideration given, for this factor!

At some point later, I was once again brought before the panel whereby, I was subjected to further mental anguish and at which time, an OBSERVER (another patient) was assigned to my being - another aspect in the somewhat precarious

procedures, that are still in existence today, at St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital.

The act of having an observer - assigned to you :-

- She/He - became at that moment, my shadow in the truest sense of the meaning. When I moved - they moved....

My movements in their entirety were completely restricted and governed solely by this observer.

- Should I wish, to obtain a magazine from a coffee table, while sitting in the family room - I would firstly, have to ask my observer, whereby he/she could deny my request, if granted - would have to accompany me the two feet, I wished to travel to.

- Should I require a drink from the fountain - the same procedure had to be followed.

- Meal times - were extremely stressful, as this observer had to walk directly beside you to the dining room and sit beside you. Should you EVEN attempt to stand up from the table, without firstly asking permission, once again from your observer, then you both could and would be sited on the spot!

- When travelling to the yard - your observer remained directly beside you at all times.

- When taking a shower - your observer had to be within feet of you and was not permitted to look anywhere, other than straight at you - should that observer not comply - she would be sited.

- When using the bathroom facilities - your observer once again, had to place herself directly in front of you and was not allowed to look away or both would be sited.

- These procedures, without exception had to be strictly adhered to or suffer the consequences. These consequences will be explicitly depicted at a future date.....

Thus, these EXTREME controlled elements, which made up the BARBARIC environment, I was placed in - were without a doubt - detrimental to my well being.

There was NO t.v., there was NO radio - they were strictly privileges to be earned later down the road - should you be so fortunate - for MANY - this was not to be.

Finally, I was brought back to the original cold and stark cell, that I had inhabited earlier, however, they saw fit (for night time purposes only) to give me a mattress, which was placed upon the cold concrete floor and one blanket - that was to be my lot - for some time to come at the St. Thomas facility.

That was an accurate account of my F I R S T day at St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital - a more detailed DOCUMENTATION of my four months of confinement (in its' entirety) will ALSO be forthcoming at a later date.

"This particular account - is by far - NOT the end of it!

FOOTNOTE :- At the end of only ONE day, at the St. Thomas facility, I was placed into a state of complete shock and devastation - WHERE was the understanding, WHERE was the compassion, WHERE was the PROFESSIONAL H E L P that should have been in existence - I ASK YOU - WHERE was the HUMANITY? -

As, I laid there upon the cold concrete floor, that first night - feelings of appreciation of what the persecuted JEWS must of felt, as they suffered and endured the atrocities, at the hands of their captors. As the days at St. Thomas progressed, these feelings became more apparent and were literally magnified beyond any comprehension to mankind...

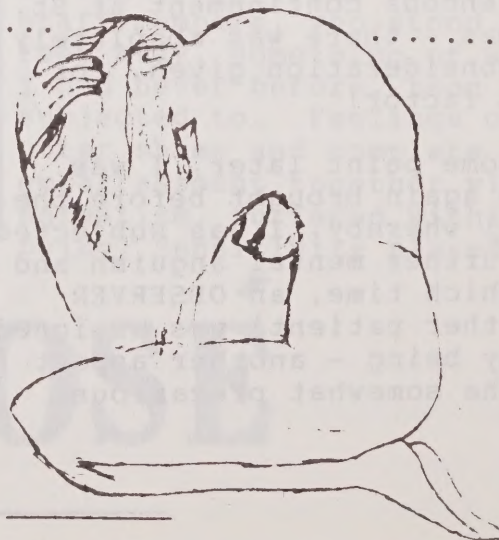
"OUTRAGEOUS/DESPICABLE/ATROCIOUS"

are ALL terms, that can be applied to depict the treatment program, still in existence at St. THOMAS PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL.

There is far more to be told and I will not rest - "TILL JUSTICE - HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO BEAR!

Christina Dawn CORKIE Boyland

.....



D E P R E S S I O N

My heart cries out in despair,
My past was full, my future empty.
My being is beyond repair,
My hopes are few, my fears are plenty.

What is life without a future,
What is living without a purpose.
Tomorrow is today, today like yesterday,
Time no longer has any meaning.

Behind these walls time stands still,
While the world goes on outside.
In here slowly you are forgotten, till
No one cares that you are gone.

Loving, caring people you will not find,
Behind these walls of steel.
All are here for some sort of crime,
Some are here to wheel and deal.

Some don't care what people think,
Some feel depressed and alone.
Others don't care, they laugh and joke,
And others cry over the phone.

If a friend you make, it's not for long,
As the coming and going is very strong.
A friend Today is gone Tomorrow,
Then someone else new with their sorrow.

The more depressed I become,
The more I wish to end,
This pointless, endless loss of time

"TO YOU GOD - a prayer I send"



LINDA

BOWEN

**A VIEW POINT FROM INSIDE
MATSQUI INSTITUTION, B.C.**

by Gayle K. Horii, Matsqui
Institution, Abbotsford,
B.C. V2S 4P3

The human condition is actualized through our senses of awareness. Senses which communicate their discoveries to our brain transforming them into meaningful feelings. Humanity has evolved from a mere functional level to a more enlightened level through aesthetics and culture aligning the pleasure principle with the quality of life, the quality of human feelings.

Prisons are at cross purposes with those of society. Rather than nurturing the creative spirit and the sensitivity of the individual prisoner, rather than assisting to increase and enhance the human awareness of those incarcerated so that prisoners can find self-understanding, prisons censor all self-expression by demanding blind obedience to inane regulations, their promises to "successfully integrate" prisoners into the community and to "protect the public," come a distant second to their desires for a safe and secure working environment for themselves - "the good order of the institution." By limiting the expression of the prisoners to the demands of autocratic whims, the priority to reduce the prisoner to a "manageable unit" is exemplified.

Even at the archaic Prison for Women, prisoners are permitted to individualize their cages by making snugly comforters, by buying sheets and towels of rainbow hues and covering icy tiles with small civilizing floormats. Personal clothing and decisions of what to wear at all social events belong to the prisoner. In my three years in prison, paranoia over appearance was not a priority of the administrators or of security staff, rather each woman dressed according to their individual comfort level and in accord to the demands of daily routines, social or recreational events. Choices in color, pattern, style or fabric were never disputed by the women administering their system, perhaps because they understood the need for a minimal degree of expression and viewed this expression as a positive behavior.

The fact that women account for approximately 2% of all prisoners serving Federal sentences in Canada, is one which seems to have eluded the millions of tax dollars spent in Canada on studies concerning criminality and the criminal just-us system. Is the "naturally" less aggressive genetics in women, this yielding biology, due to innate nurturing and the

sensitive nature of women? Sensitivity translates to feelings. Feedback returns realizations and understanding, thus reinforcing the inner self. When the senses activate the desire to communicate, this creative force within each one of us prompts us to reach out to one another in brotherhood and in sisterhood, in parenthood, in partnership and in citizenship.

Though I am incarcerated in a men's prison, I am not subjected to the wearing of greens. However, I am told what and what not I may wear, even to the extent of what I may wear to visits both in the community visiting area and in the privacy of the family visiting units. Removing the only positive treatment I had received as a woman in prison seems backward indeed. The motivation behind the imposition of dress restrictions to both prisoners of institutions as well as their visitors seems to stress the restrictive sensibilities of this system and their preoccupation with the sexual aspects of clothing. This is diametrically opposed to what is acceptable and normal in the society which exists on the other side of the barbed wire fences. In addition to being a denial of the right to express under the charter of rights and freedoms. It is in direct violation of the most

basic pattern of behavior when one is expecting a visitor, and this is to make one as presentable and attractive as possible simply out of respect for the time this visitor is taking to spend with the prisoner, and in particular when the visitor happens to be one whom is in love with the prisoner.

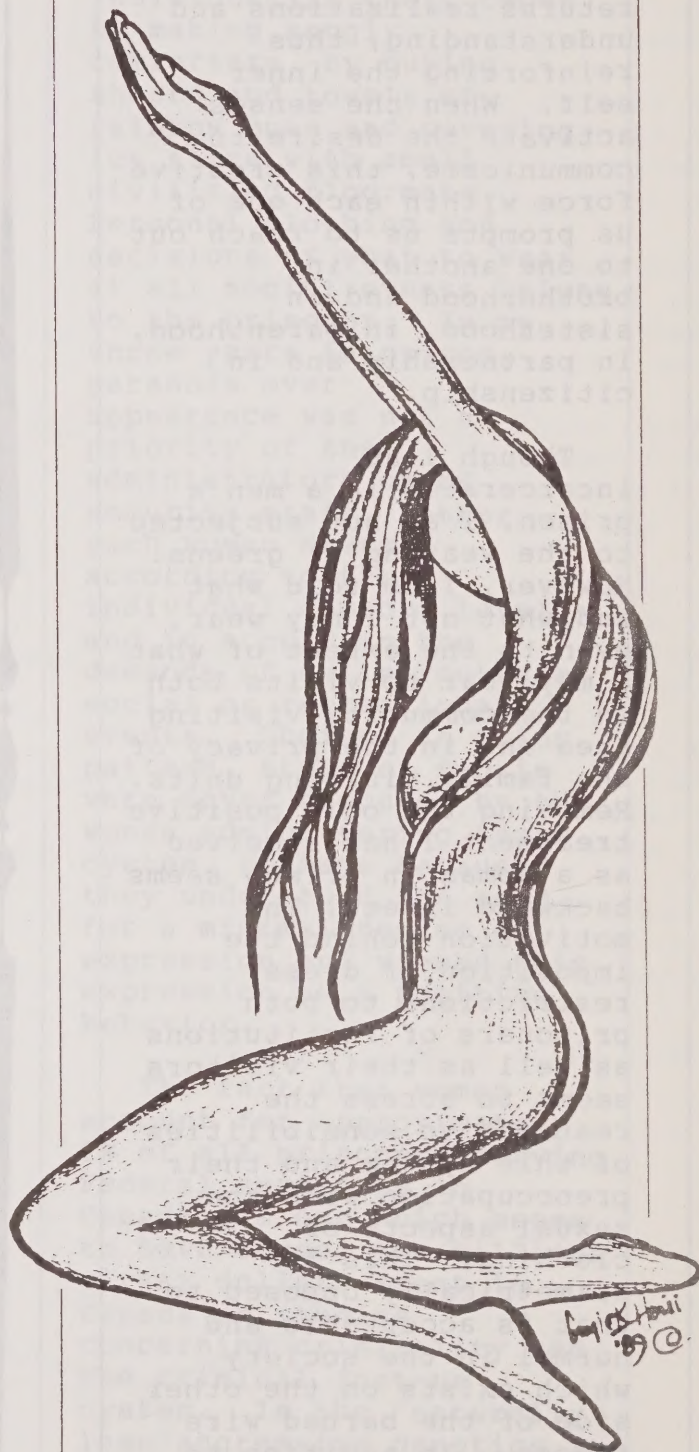
Men are not permitted to individualize their images nor are certain fabrics such as velour or silk permitted. Prisoners cannot present themselves during social events as anything other than a class of prisoners.

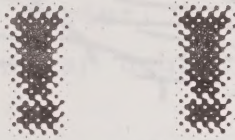
The usually earlier communication ability of female babies versus male babies has been documented. Less frustration and anger develop if channels of communication remain open. The natural tendency of women to talk things out is a tendency which is censored would lead to anger and violence. Just as speaking and writing are forms of expression, so the manner of dress and hairstyle qualifies. The necessity to express is a human need, a need to communicate in precise terms. The greater the importance of the subject to the individual, the more complex the methods of expression are needed.

During the course of this incarceration, the male prisoner is not permitted to view any real

women in real clothing, clothing which is worn as an everyday and natural occurrence in the world 100 yards away. The man is restricted to fantasy while he looks at paper dolls and television images. Sometimes, for year upon year, these fantasies take the place of direct communication to the senses. It is of no surprise to this woman that any man, so confined, may act in an immediate and inappropriate manner when finally seeing the hundreds of women walking by in various forms of dress and undress.

It is past time for this prison "cystem" to de-program themselves and begin to humanize their behaviors and their regulations in order to manage prisoners with sensitivity to the manhood and womanhood of the prisoner, to enhance and increase the ability of those thousands held against their so that they may retain the ability to feel. Until that day, society will only be returned a desensitized and hardened person, hardened to their own feelings and even more hardened to the feelings of others, hardened to the appreciation of the beauty of humanity.





TOO FEW TO COUNT: Canadian Women in Conflict with the Law.
 Edited by Ellen Adelberg and Claudia Currie. Press Gang, \$14.95.

By **PETER PRONGOS**

MANY people, if asked about their impression of the type of women who end up behind bars, would recite a litany of Hollywoodesque stereotypes. They might describe sleazy, tough-broad convicts, perhaps with masculinized lesbians who terrorize the more "feminine" inmates.

The reality of women enmeshed in the Canadian criminal justice system is, however, quite different. This ignorance about the nature of female offenders is not surprising, given the lurid cinematic clichés on one hand, and the lack of serious study of this subject. **Too Few To Count** throws a long overdue light on a problem which has been, before the rise of the women's movement, generally ignored by criminologists and the public alike.

Editors Adelberg and Currie, both of whom worked in halfway houses for the Elizabeth Fry Society, have seen first-hand the "wasted lives and intense pain and anger of those behind prison walls."

The editors attempts to "help" and "rehabilitate" their clients were frustrated by the lack of real alternatives for the women, and by the inertia of a generally indifferent government bureaucracy. No matter how hard former inmates tried, there was little meaningful support for their efforts to "go straight" and many found it impossible to escape the prison-poverty cycle.

This collection is an attempt to make these invisible women real, to give us an accurate picture of their plight, and to banish the myths about them. One of the most moving chapters recounts the stories of seven prisoners in their own words — a disturbing account of abuse, errors of judgment, sexism, and the

pitfalls of being poor, unskilled and desperate.

Other sections deal with the nature of theories about women branded as dangerous. The "father" of criminology, Cesare Lombroso, for instance, wrote: ... if female born criminals are fewer in number than males, they are often more ferocious ... the normal woman is naturally less sensitive to pain than a man, and compassion is the offspring of sensitiveness ... their moral sense is deficient ... when piety and maternal sentiments are

wanting and in their place are strong passions and intensely erotic tendencies ... the innocuous semi-criminal present in the normal woman must be transformed into a born criminal more terrible than any man."

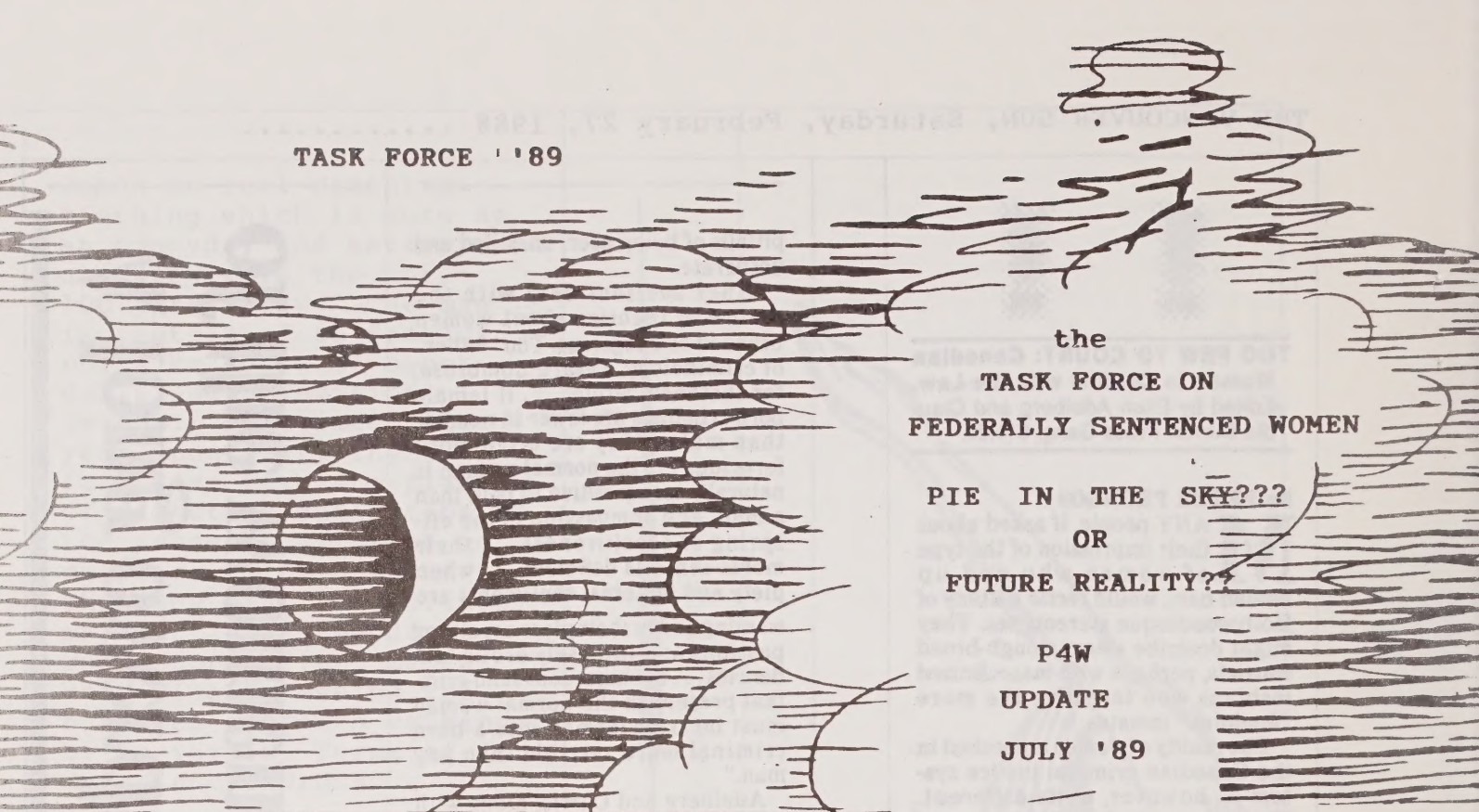
Adelberg and Currie, along with most of the contributors, place much of the blame for the problem of women and crime at the doorstep of economic and social discrimination engendered by our "patriarchal system based on male dominance and male property rights."

Another article questions the choice to lock up women, 85 per cent of whom are not dangerous, at a cost of over \$56,000 each (in 1986). This policy is especially hard to justify when most women's support groups are chronically short of funds — the very programs which could provide real help.

Because there is so little reliable information about women, especially Native women, in the prison system, there are numerous gaps in these studies, and many of the conclusions must remain tentative. Hopefully, **Too Few To Count** is a harbinger of more discussions to come. This examination of women and the law, from a feminist perspective, is a significant contribution to that on-going task.

Peter Prongos is a Vancouver freelance writer

A long overdue look at the plight of the women in Canadian prisons



TASK FORCE '89

the
TASK FORCE ON
FEDERALLY SENTENCED WOMEN

PIE IN THE SKY???
OR
FUTURE REALITY??

P4W
UPDATE
JULY '89

ARE WE PADDLING UPHILL???

AGAINST THE CURRENT CSC REALITIES???

An exercise in frustration and futility - women with good hearts and well-meaning attitudes came to visit with us this morning. In the 1½ hours that we spent discussing the matter of "improving" the lot of the Federal Female Prisoner, many matters were brought to the fore.

Comments from the legal representative of the group indicated that it was "unrealistic" to expect the institution to be able to provide a written copy of all the rules and regulations. If the rules are important enough for them to be used to infringe on our freedoms and liberties then they should also be important enough to put in writing and give each inmate a copy. If we don't know the rules, how on earth are we supposed to conform.

We wanted to talk about improving this institution - they wanted to talk about building more institutions. We should all be talking about the abolition of prisons.

While I recognized in these women a real desire to make things better, I, also, recognized that they, like us, are fighting an uphill battle on a virtually rudderless ship.

A classic example of the lack of cooperation and assistance that is being given in this matter was seen in the fact that we were only notified at 0900 hours of the intent for us to meet with these women at 1030 hours. This left us with no time to prepare and little time to think. In my opinion, this was not an oversight - it was planned that way. After all, it is a known fact that numbered among the members of the Life Savers group are some of the most intelligent, liberal minded women in the building and Heaven forbid that we be allowed time to develop a plan of action.

Once more we have been shelved with nothing more than a pacifier. Will we ever be really heard?? Will we ever be treated humanely and fairly?? Will Prison for Women ever come out of the Dark Ages??

If you can answer any of these questions then you are probably even more deluded and brain washed than we are.

Prison for Women

July 4, 1989

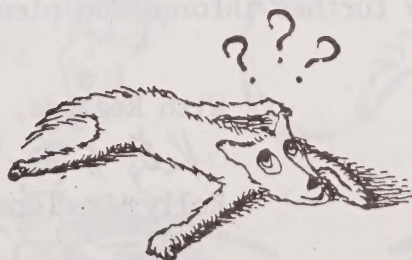
THE TASK FORCE MOTTO

©BRILLIANT ENTERPRISES 1975.

POT-SHOYS NO. 733

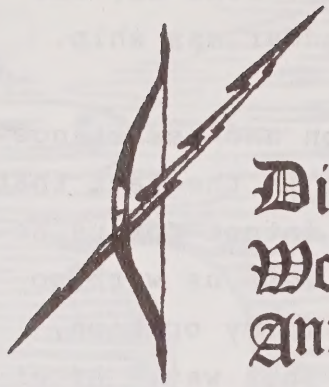
A Lifer

**"AS SOON AS I CAN FIND
A GOOD POSITION,**



**I INTEND TO
TAKE A
FIRM STAND."**

cellegh Brilliant



Disabled Women's Anthology

15165 88th Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
V3S 2S6
Telephone: 588-1237
July 6, 1989

Your publication was referred to us by Barbara Kuhne of Press Gang Publishers in Vancouver, B.C. as a likely place to "call for submissions" for an Anthology we are determined to put together.

We are women of various disability and ages that wish to have a positive and powerful book published. We would like to have the Canadian women's voice coming from its pages, transcending discrimination of any sort; color, sexual preference, socio-economic status etc. We are seeking materials from women with disabilities... whether the disability be physical (hidden or visible), mental or emotional.

The editors of this anthology are extremely open-minded and our goal is to present to the public a book which displays the courage and desires of our women with disabilities. One of our own editors, shall we say, had a lengthy visit at the 'Lakeside Resort' next to Oakalla, and she has risen our awareness as to the situations of women that are institutionalized for whatever reason. With this anthology we hope to allow disabled women a means of expressing themselves in any manner which may be documented within a book. We would be honored to receive permission to announce our intent in your paper.

We anticipate our anthology to be uplifting and enlightening. Hopefully filled with short stories, essays, poems, quotations, graphic illustrations, cartoons and black and white photographs. We will be requesting a short auto-biographical note from each contributor, which is planned to be in the credits of the book.

Your assistance with this anthology would be vastly appreciated and will not be forgotten. An S.A.S.A. is enclosed for your convenience to respond to this request. If you would like any further information please contact me.

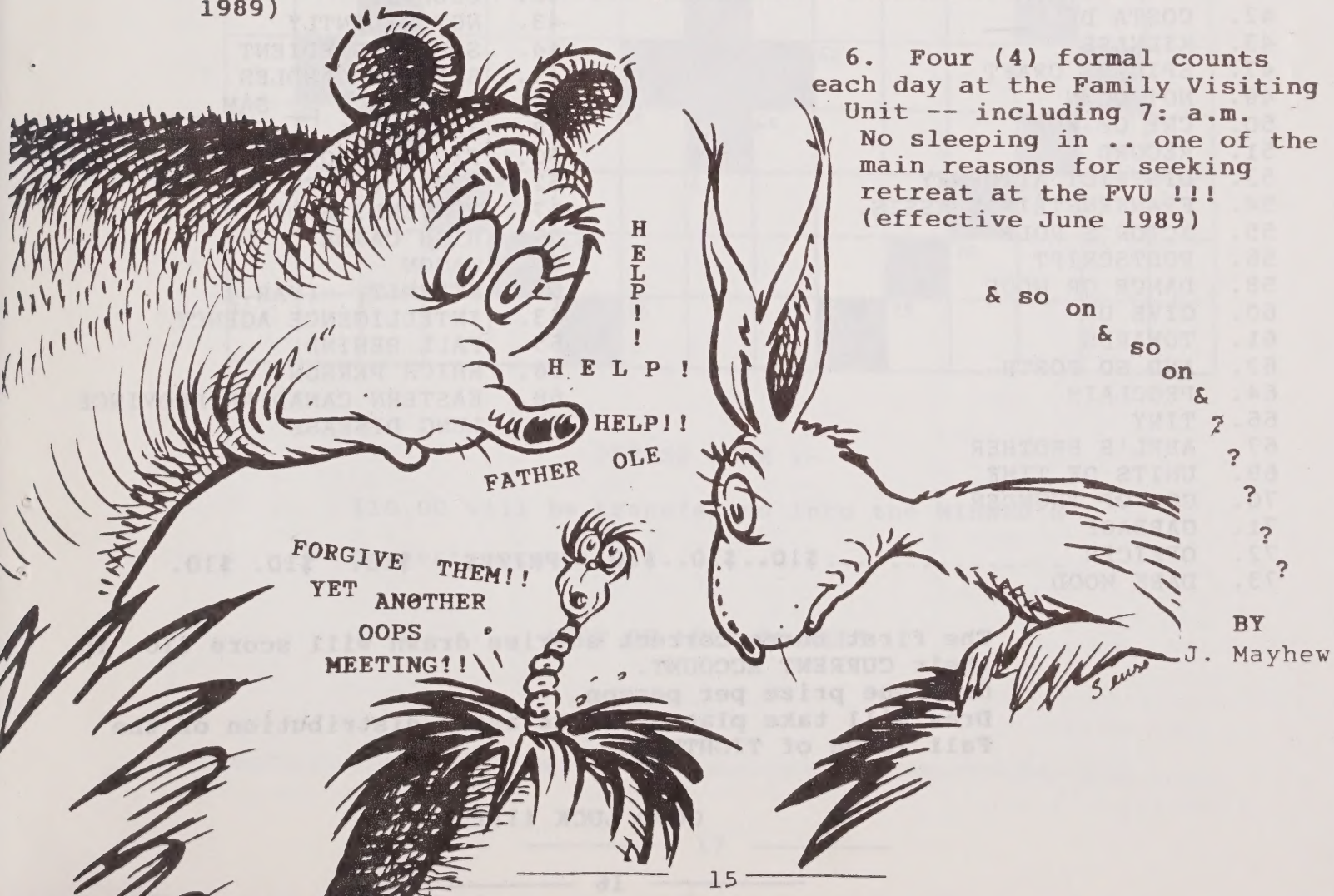
With Regards,

Kelly Wheeler

THE NEW UNIT MANAGEMENT
PRESENTS-----

1. Restrictions on casual interaction between wings & ranges during leisure hours. (effective Spring, 1988)
2. Families and friends may no longer visit our living units on family day. This represents a real hardship for many old, young or invalid guests. (effective Summer, 1988)
3. Controlled movement throughout the building during leisure hours. This greatly affects the former small flexibility we were allowed in planning our own and our group activities. It also forces us to stay in locations or situations which we may, formerly, have chosen to have left. (effective Fall, 1988)
4. A NEW FORMAL count at 4: p.m. in which all prisoners must be in their cells. This is effective even on such occasions as our family days. This count often takes 25 minutes. It has interfered with late afternoon groups. To "offset" the negative impact, individuals have been given "alternatives" such as to eat their dinner immediately BEFORE their exercise or weight-lifting groups. (effective Winter, 1989)
5. Contents of in-coming parcels have been severely restricted. These parcels are a long-standing privilege accorded to the women at P4W. Now these parcels are restricted to clothes only. Formerly most items allowed in our institutional effects (excepting T.V.'s and items not considered contraband) were permitted. (effective Winter, 1989)

6. Four (4) formal counts each day at the Family Visiting Unit -- including 7: a.m. No sleeping in .. one of the main reasons for seeking retreat at the FVU !!! (effective June 1989)



PUZZLE - TRIAL & ERROR

A C R O S S

1. REVITALIZER
5. EPIC POEM
8. FOLLOW
13. GOD OF LOVE
14. BUCKETS
16. GIN BERRY
17. HARDEN
18. EXTRA STOCK
20. PIG _ _ POKE
21. POETIC ELIOT
22. NOT AS MUCH
23. _ _ MATER
25. ARMED ROBBERY
26. PROMISE
27. CAB
28. MUSICAL NOTE
30. TAKES TO COURT
32. PRECIOUS
33. YOU & I
34. URGE
36. AT THIS TIME
38. BOY
39. HALF A DOZEN
40. ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL
41. REVENUE
42. COSTA DEL _ _
43. KIDNAPS
47. SPIDERY CRAFT
49. NOT DOWN
50. CRY OF WOE
51. RECORD
53. DISTRICT ATTORNEY
54. FRANKENSTEIN'S ASSIS.
55. ACTOR'S ROLE
56. POSTSCRIPT
58. DANCE OR HOOP
60. GIVE UP
61. TOWARDS
62. AND SO FORTH
64. PROCLAIM
66. TINY
67. ABEL'S BROTHER
69. UNITS OF TIME
70. GOD OF THUNDER
71. GARBAGE
72. OFFICER
73. DARK WOOD

D O W N

1. TAKE THE STAND
2. RAW MINERAL
3. NEG. TERM
4. EXISTS
5. PADDLES
6. SHORT SWIM
7. A FITZGERALD
9. ROBERT SERVICE
10. "THE GREATEST"
11. WOMAN'S NAME
12. EDUCATED
14. DOPE DEALER
15. MOSLEM RULER
18. FRAME UP
19. BRIGHT
22. _ _ VEGAS
24. CHOP
29. FABLED AUTHOR
31. BUDS
32. RESPOND
33. POLISHED
35. NONE
37. _ _ GARDNER
38. _ _ & ORDER
42. CULPRIT
43. NOT SILENTLY
44. SOUP INGREDIENT
45. SLENDER CANDLES
46. DETECTIVE _ _ SAM _ _
48. ASSAULT & _ _
50. EXCLAMATION OF FRIGHT
52. EVER (POETIC)
57. HEAVENLY BODY
59. HIGH CARDS
60. WAGON
61. ETERNITY (VAR.)
63. INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
65. FALL BEHIND
66. WHICH PERSON?
68. EASTERN CANADIAN PROVINCE
70. LUNG DISEASE

\$10. \$10. \$10. PRIZES \$10. \$10. \$10.

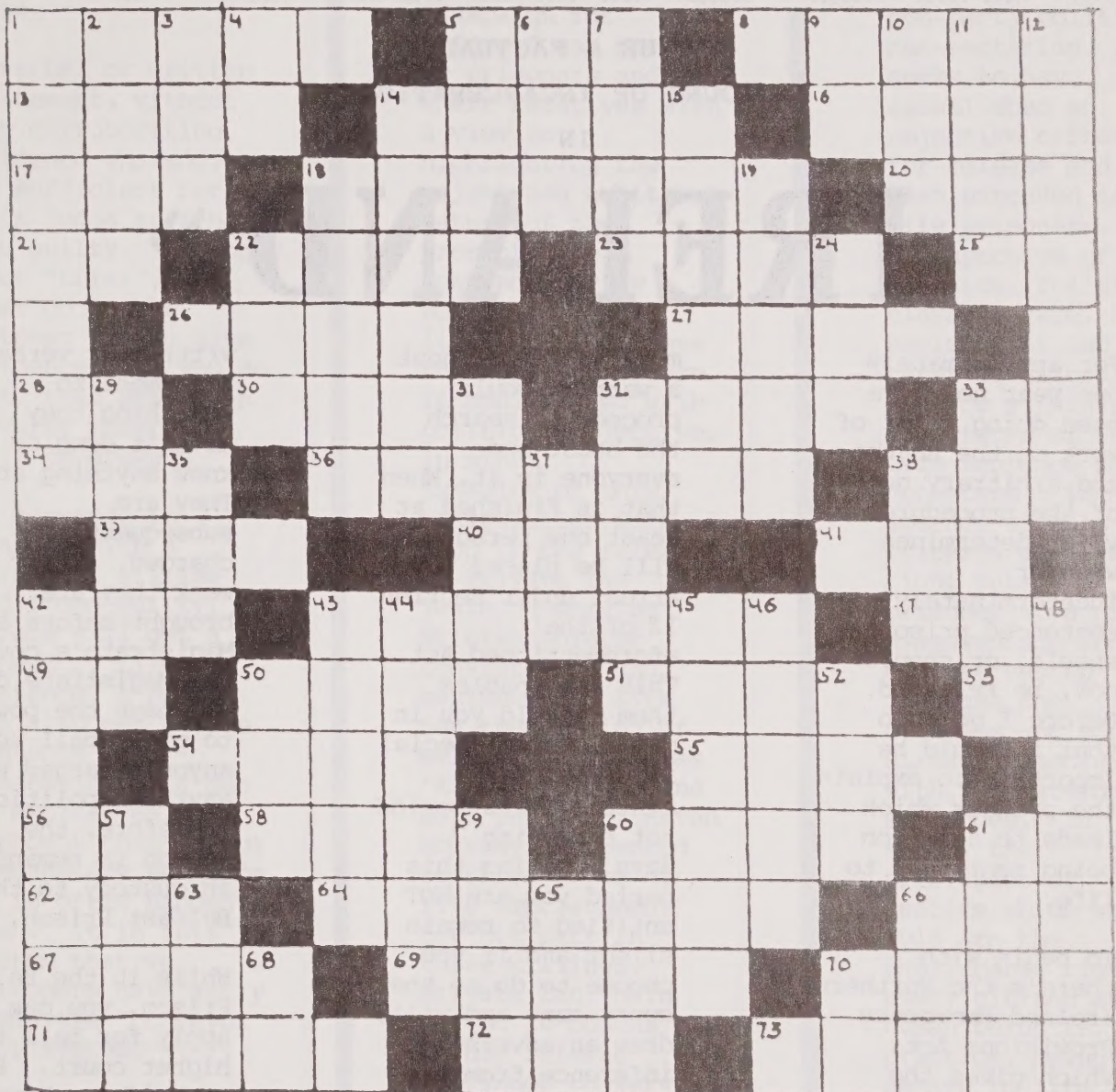
The first three correct entries drawn will score \$10. in their CURRENT ACCOUNT.

Only one prize per person.

Draw will take place 2 weeks after distribution of the Fall issue of TIGHTWIRE.

GOOD LUCK !!!!!

- TRIAL AND ERROR - PUZZLE -



PLEASE NOTE :-

\$10.00 will be transferred into the **WINNER'S**
current account

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL!

SHOCKING !

"TRUE & FACTUAL"
ACCOUNT OF INCARCERATION
IN

IRELAND »

For approximately one year now I've been doing a lot of work on the unjust and arbitrary nature of the procedure which determines whether indeterminately sentenced prisoners should, or should not, be released. Before I go into that it would be important to explain the process which leads to a person being sentenced to life.

To begin with there's the Northern Ireland Emergency Provisions Act, which gives the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) and the British Army very wide sweeping powers which enables them to stop, search, seize and arrest anyone at anytime. In general what happens is a joint RUC and British Army Unit would arrive in the early hours of the

morning and without a warrant would proceed to search the house and everyone in it. When that is finished at least one person will be placed under arrest under Section 12 of the aforementioned Act. This Act enables them to hold you in one of three special interrogation centers for a period not exceeding 7 days. During this period you are NOT entitled to remain silent and if you choose to do so the court can, and will, draw an adverse inference from the silence. It will be used against you.

After 48 hours you may ask for, but are not entitled to consult with your solicitor. In most cases you see NO ONE!

While being interrogated, some people make a

written or verbal statement to something they haven't done or even know anything about. They are subsequently charged. After the week they are brought before a Magistrate's court. The Magistrate does not have the power to grant bail to anyone charged with anything political. Therefore, the person is remanded in custody to the Belfast Prison.

While in the Belfast Prison, you can apply for bail to a higher court. But even if you have only been charged with possession of a gun, it is very doubtful that you'll get bail no matter if you stay on remand for 18 months or two years.

Your Judge consists of one judge sitting alone; no jury Diplock Court. It

is he, and he alone, who decides your fate.

A verbal or written statement, without any corroborating evidence whatsoever, is sufficient for this judge to find you guilty. During your "trial", you must go to the witness box to give evidence. If you do not, then again, an adverse inference will be drawn.

If a person is charged with a political killing and found guilty; he/she will get a Mandatory Life sentence. A person can also get a Life Sentence for possession of a gun or explosives. Although this is not a Mandatory Sentence it is often handed down. It is this system that we prisoners have aptly named the "conveyor belt system."

The Life Sentence procedure itself is a lengthy subject to discuss. It is very unjust. I am giving you a summary of the Campaign we and our relatives created, just over a year ago. We hope to force the Government, through public pressure, to create meaningful changes and scrape the present system.

This Campaign, which we call the "Campaign for Lifers," was created by prisoners and their relatives with a view to highlighting the unjust and arbitrary nature of the present Life Sentence Review Board Procedure (LSRBP). We believe the whole procedure is manipulated with political objectives in mind.

Examples of this manipulation were seen in the releases of Private Ian Thain, a serving British soldier convicted of and sentenced to life for the killing of Belfast man, Thomas "Kidso" Reilly, and paid perjurer, Keven McGrady, sentenced to three terms of life imprisonment for his part in three killings. Private Ian Thain served 26 months and on his release continued to serve with the British Army. Kevin McGrady served a total of six years. In

contrast, there are Republican, and indeed Loyalist, prisoners still in prison after serving 14, 15, 16, 17 years of life sentences, some of whom for offences where no fatalities or injuries were involved.

The "Campaign for Lifers" (C.F.L.) is non-party political, non-sectarian, and seeks to have established an objective criteria for release and to have extended to all life prisoners, irrespective of politics, religion, class or race, the basic right and tenet of natural justice within the structures of the Life Sentence Review Procedure. The absence of this criteria and human right puts a prisoner at a great disadvantage and only serves to increase the stresses and strains already associated with indeterminate sentences. In short, the principles of justice which we are told are the inalienable right of every citizen and human being is, in practice, being denied to life prisoners solely on the grounds that

he/she is in prison. To rectify this, and in order to bring about a more just system we, the Campaign for Lifers, have put forward 6 reasonable proposals which, if introduced, will put a stop to the political manipulation and will bring about a

fairer system which gives justice to all.

These proposals are as follows:

Proposal 1. The ending of indeterminate sentences. A person sentenced to life is sentenced in a special non-jury Diplock Court. They are charged and sentenced under the "Emergency Provisions Act", which is temporary. For a person to be sentenced to Life under a temporary law is unjust and should be abolished forthwith.

Proposal 2. The right to Legal Representation. No provision is made nor is it permitted for a prisoner to be legally represented when the review board sits to hear his/her case. The Review Board has the powers, which they use quite frequently, to decide that a case should not be reviewed for another five years. Given the 50% remission for non-indeterminately sentenced prisoners, this 5 years is equivalent to a 10 year prison sentence. The rights of the Life prisoner should be observed at higher levels. The only way this

can be done is to have legal representatives present to observe and offer submissions on behalf of their clients.

Proposal 3. The Right to know the reason for an unfavorable decision. No Life prisoner is given any reason from the Board for an unfavorable decision. All they are given is a small slip of paper which briefly states that their case has been reviewed and will not be reviewed for a further 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 years. This is unjust.

If it is a case of a prisoner having done something, or is doing something, which the Board deems wrong, then surely the prisoner has the right to know so that he/she can rectify whatever it may be in order to work towards the eventual day of release.

Proposal 4. The publication of objective criteria for release. The stated criteria for release of which there are two: 1) Retribution - that being that the time reflect the seriousness of the crime

2) That the prisoner poses no threat upon his/her release. How can Board determine whether or not a prisoner has met these two criteria? These decisions are subjectively based and we believe that there is in existence a secret criteria which is politically determined and which can be clearly seen in the releases of Ian Thain and Kevin McGrady whilst Republicans continue to be incarcerated for terms of 17 years! and still don't know if or when they will ever be released.

Proposal 5. The ending of secret reports. These reports are subjectively based and allow for personal, political and religious bias to come through. A prisoner has no input and is not permitted to view or challenge the contents of any reports made about them. This practice is unjust and should be abolished forthwith.

Proposal 6. The right to challenge the make-up of the Board. A prisoner does not know the make-up of a Review Board, we feel that is important that a

20-June. 89.

Form 21 AD

In replying to this letter, please address the envelope as follows:

Number _____ Name Andy Gallagher A1111
H Block 4 A Wing Maze Prison

BLESSED

Are the meek in heart and the poor of spirit
For they stand not the slightest chance
of inheriting the earth, but will stave on to the end
like faithful sheep....

2-0-01
68-11-12



prisoner does know and that the Board operate on the same system as that of selecting a jury. This will give the prisoner the right to be present during the review and the right to ask at least two Board members to step down from his/her particular case. This will offer some relief from situations where a person sitting on the Board is a friend or relative of a person with which the prisoner's case is connected

IN JUNE 1989, WE HAD
AN UPDATE FROM
ANDY:

(My first graphic contribution to TIGHTWIRE ??)

Approximately 8 months ago, under pressure of public opinion, the British Government appointed a House of Lords Select Committee to make a report on what was called "Murder and Life Imprisonment."

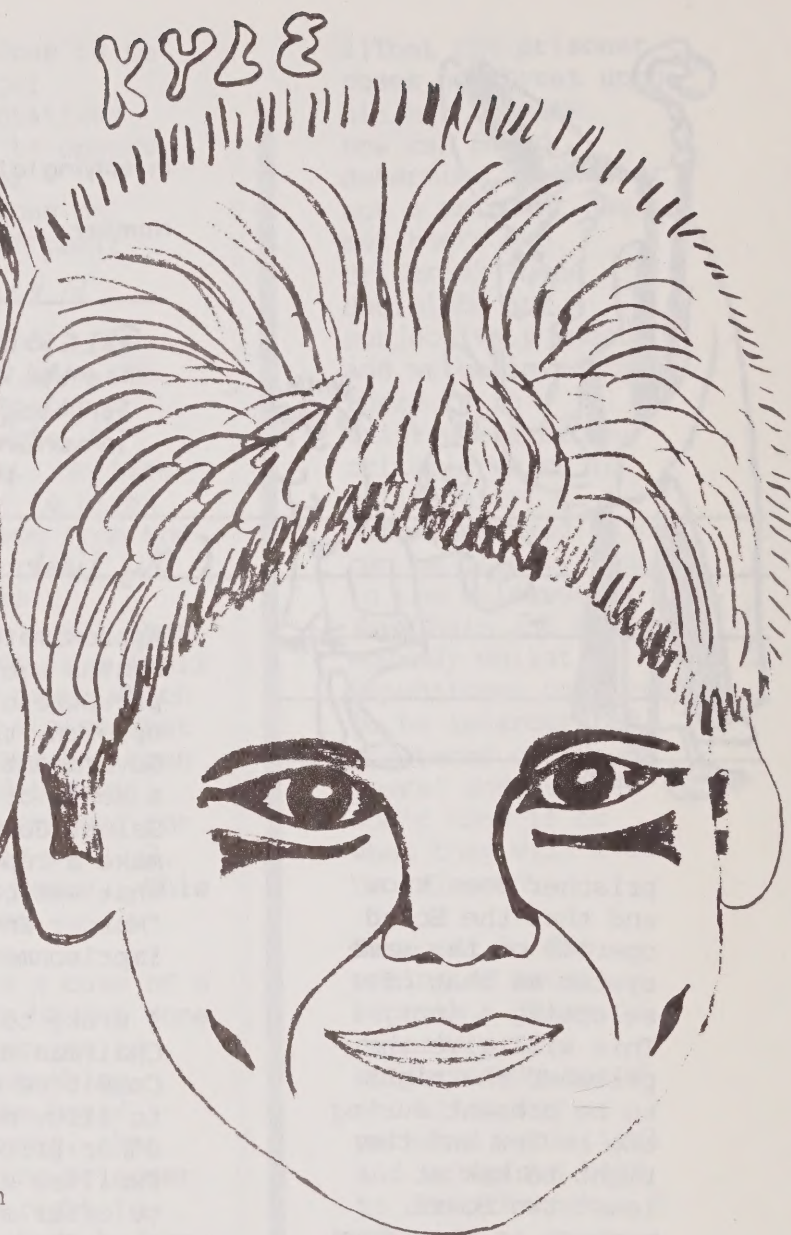
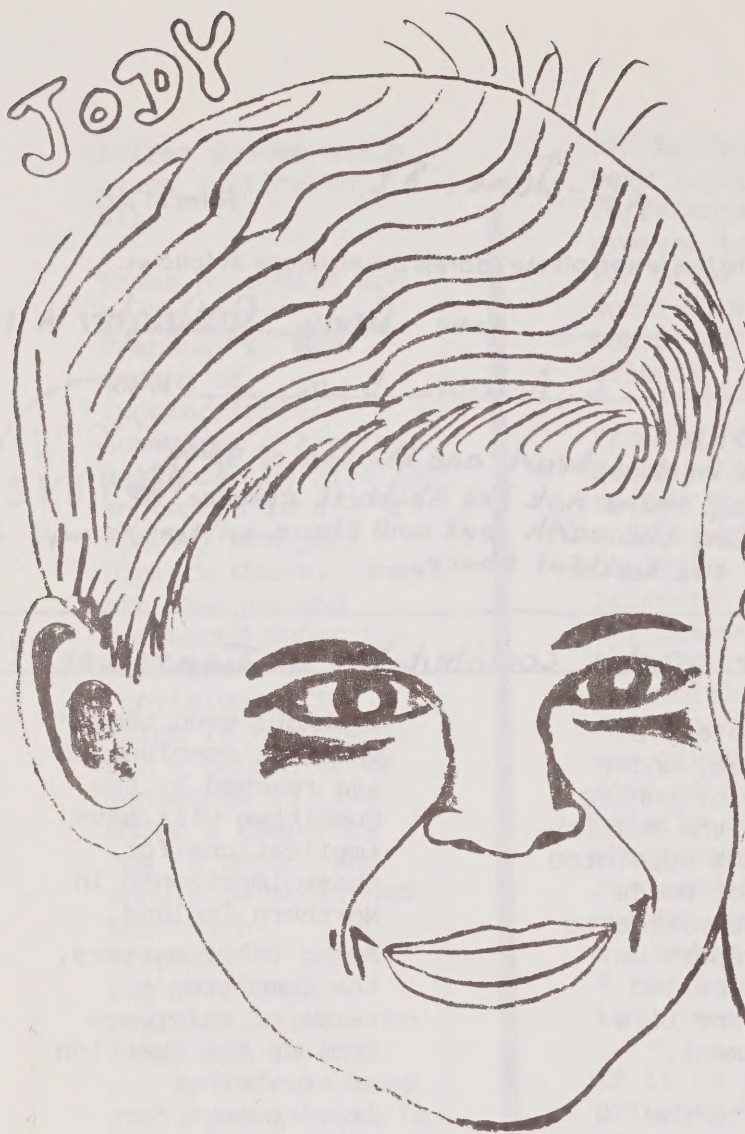
I wrote to the Chairman of the Committee asking him to allow me and/or other prisoners, families and groups to offer submissions or to have some form of input into this report as its findings will have implications for the prisons and prisoners of Northern Ireland.

In a fairly lengthy reply from Lord Nathan's clerk, I was told that the Committee will accept submissions from anyone in England, Scotland or Wales but NOT FROM ANYONE IN NORTHERN

IRELAND; even though whatever conclusions are reached by the Committee will have implications for those imprisoned in Northern Ireland.

Among other matters, the Committee's terms of reference include the question as to whether imprisonment for life should remain Mandatory rather than a Maximum Penalty and how decisions on releasing individuals serving Life Sentences will be reached. It is becoming more and more obvious, both at home and abroad, that Irish indeterminately sentenced prisoners are, in reality, political hostages.

by Andy Gallagher



In Memoriam

PETROSKY, Barbara Jean Alexis - In loving memory of Barbara Jean Alexis Petrosky. She left us two years ago today to walk with her son, Kyle, down the Garden Path of Peace. "My Little Puffed Wheat" Caught between two separate worlds with a son in each. You faced a difficult decision only you could meet. You bestowed upon us a precious gift. Your son, Jody, for us to keep.

Then taking your leave, the decision made,

'Twas a sorrowful farewell that you bade,

For to journey with Kyle along the way, To comfort his loneliness, his fears to ally.

The sincerest of love and devotion, The ultimate sacrifice, we had the notion, And thorough it all you gave us memories-

A beautiful bouquet that lingers fresh within us each and every day.

Your wonderful laugh brought tears to our eyes,

A warm loving embrace like sunshine lies,

Such passion for life, a zest for living,

Without question or doubt, your gift was giving.

A gleam in your eye, so special a person you are, That in God's heaven, I know you're the star.

Your memories and spirit shall remain forever engraved in my heart and soul.

I love you and miss you both, more than mere words can ere express. Until we embrace again, your loving sister Katherine and niece Tara.



"THE CHILD WITHIN"

I'm willing to sit down
And write to you, even tho
I'm not sure you exist

Or, maybe you do exist
So I've forced myself to believe.

You are the guardian of
My instincts, keeping my
Pysical side and
For that, I am eternally grateful.

I guess I've felt the need
To protect you in past years
Perhaps that is one of the
Reasons, I've become indifferent
For those years.

Now, I am learning to
Feel again and it is
Hard for me to get in touch with you.
I don't connect feelings with you
Perhaps, it is too soon

I recognize some of
Your weaknesses, like
Your insecurities and your
Low self worth.

I can also recognize
Some of your strengths;
Like the burdens I have
Thrown on your shoulders.

I know you love the
Little things, things like
The rain - to this day
I'll go out of my way to
Jump in mud puddles!

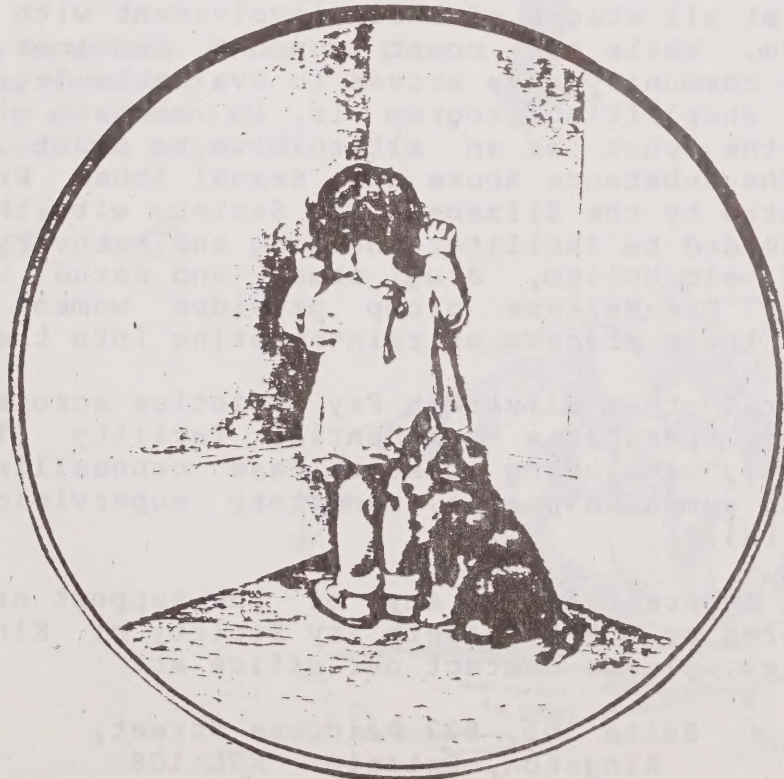
You like to cuddle
To have your hair brushed
To walk in the rain
With animals - dogs especially.

I recognize your need to
Be alone, to be loved
To be wanted and needed

I also recognize your fear
In relationships
Of being hurt; of being lost
In your own confusion and hatred.

" H E A T H E R "

.....





"WOMEN WORKING WITH WOMEN IN JUSTICE"

MELISSA CAPLAN - Volunteer Co-ordinator

ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY OF KINGSTON

.....

The Kingston Elizabeth Fry society is a volunteer based community organization which addresses the specific needs of women in conflict with the law. Through lobbying for necessary reforms in the Criminal Justice System, and through promoting social awareness of the issues and concerns affecting women within this system, our agency aims to advocate on behalf of women in conflict with the law. At the same time, we offer direct counselling services to women at all stages of their involvement with the Criminal Justice System as well as residency for women who have been released from Prison for Women.

Presently, there are nineteen Elizabeth Fry Societies located in cities across Canada, including: Brampton, Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Hamilton, Kamloops, Kelowna, Kingston, Montreal, New Brunswick, Ottawa, Prince George, Saskatoon, South Cariboo, Sudbury, Sydney, Toronto, Vancouver, and Winnipeg. In addition, the Council of Elizabeth Fry Societies of Ontario and the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies (C.A.E.F.S.) meet regularly with representatives from sister agencies in order to share information and encourage co-operation from member groups.

Each agency offers a variety of services to women in conflict with the law at all stages of their involvement with the Criminal Justice System. While our court support services ensure that women in the community have access to available legal and social services, our shoplifting program is, in certain circumstances, approved by the court as an alternative to short institutional sentences. The Substance Abuse and Sexual Abuse Programs which are co-ordinated by the Elizabeth Fry Society with the Prison for Women are intended to facilitate healing and recovery for female survivors of alcoholism, drug abuse and sexual violence. In addition, our Pre-Release group provides women inside with assistance in their process of reintegrating into the community.

As with several other Elizabeth Fry Societies across Canada, the Kingston agency operates a residential facility (The Detweiler Halfway House), including post-release counselling and parole supervision, to women on parole, mandatory supervision, T.A.P.'s, probation or bail.

If you are interested in any of the support or residential services offered by the Elizabeth Fry Society of Kingston or its sister agencies, please contact our office at:

Suite 501, 837 Princess Street,
Kingston, Ontario. K7L 1G8
or phone: 544-1744

A MOMENT OF INSANITY

The painful waiting is now over
And now my life can begin,
Four years into the future
I will see my family again.

There is a pain in my heart
That will not go away.
For someone I love
In prison he must stay.

In the heat of the moment
A great mistake was made.
For everyone involved
A great price must be paid.

Fear can be devastating
In the most destructive way.
A spur of the moment action
For a lifetime will stay.

One life is gone
Never to return.
Another behind bars
For a future he yearns.

OH! What a terrible price to pay
For everyone involved.
For a moment of insanity
That can never be resolved.

L. M. S.



LONG KESH IRELAND

A FURTHER ACCOUNT OF

" INCARCERATION "

in - IRELAND

Ireland is a country most people associate with emerald green hills and valleys, rugged unspoiled countryside and sparkling clear rivers. Well this maybe a true association, however, there is another side to this country, which is often ignored. For the past 800 years, the Irish people have been involved, in struggles to free themselves, from British rule. As a result of these struggles, Britain has always held Irish political prisoners and today - is no different.

LONG KESH, and many other prisons throughout the country, house hundreds of Irish P.O.W.s. In recent history, the British have tried to use the "prisoners" in an attempt to defeat the resistance of the Irish people. They directly, attacked Irish Republican P.O.W.s, whom they saw, as an integral part of Irish resistance. This attack, took the form of a "criminalization process", whereby Britain refused to recognize Irish political prisoners as such. This resulted in protest action, which culminated in the LONG KESH "hunger-strike" of 1981, in which ten prisoners died.

Since the hunger-strike, the British objective of trying to break the political prisoner's will, to continue the struggle on his/her release, remains the same, but has been approached in a more subtle way and in many different prisons.

In Maghaberry Prison and in England itself, Republican women are subjected to strip-searchers daily.

Recently one woman was strip-searched 82 times, while on remand and subsequently found "not guilty". Women have been strip-searched, while they were pregnant and one woman was strip-searched, shortly after receiving treatment, for a miscarriage. The strip-searching of Republican women in British prisons, is nothing more than refined torture, or in the words of a member of the European parliament; "STRIP-SEARCHING" amounts to the institutional rape of women.

In Magilligan Prison, where prisoners ending their sentence are taken, the British are forcefully integrating Irish Republican prisoners with Loyalist prisoners (pro-status quo reactionaries). This leads to daily confrontations, which end in Republicans being beaten or charged due to the blatantly sectarian make-up of prison wardens.

Here in LONG KESH, we are not free from Britain's war of attrition against Republican P.O.w.s and there is an ongoing prison struggle, between us and the British administration. LONG KESH holds the majority of Republican life-sentence prisoners and the British are holding these prisoners, as political hostages. They hope, to break the commitment to struggle, of the P.O.W.s themselves and of their families and friends on the outside, by holding them indefinitely. The British speak out on behalf of Nelson Mandela and condemn the South African regime for holding a political prisoner for so long, while they forget or conveniently ignore, the fact, that they themselves, are holding hundreds of "Nelson Mandela's in their own prisons.

Outside of the ever present prison struggle, to maintain our existence as political prisoners, we use our time in prison constructively. we are involved in an ongoing politicization process, which as well as providing personal development, also helps in the overall struggle.

The whole nature of our struggle in British prisons, is very complex and broad and unable to be fully explained here, but basically, "doing time" for a Republican prisoner in LONG KESH or any other prison, is but a continuation of the struggle for FREEDOM being waged on the outside.

- Republican Prisoners -
H-5, LONG KESH - IRELAND



"WE ARE - WITHIN"

This little world we live in
Is situated within
The walls of pain and suffering
We wait for the day of belonging.

So many times we've been restrained
And we have lied
Keeping back our thought and feelings
We are in a compound.

Occupation is not enough
We need to be nourished
By the air, the sky.

We live within
The shelter, helter skelter
We spin and spin amid the din.

Man and woman were made to be free
Man and woman also destroy
What they create, we hate
But we taste what we have not
And so we've got to strive for
The unknown.

doriana

CHANGES

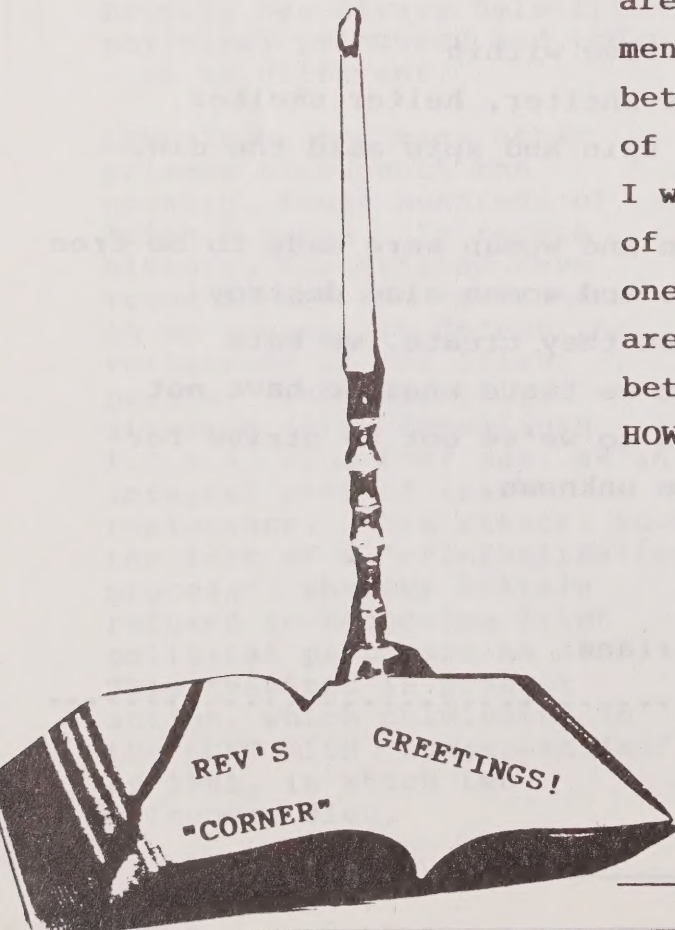
Nothing stays the same. Change is inevitable. The other day, I was looking at a video taken in 1980, my how I have changed! Grey hair and a padded waist line have taken over. I have changed greatly in my physical appearance over the years.

However, that is not the only way, in which I have changed. I got to thinking about the years, after viewing that video. My thoughts and views changed, during my tenure here at Prison For Women. Some of my old ideas have gone and some new ones have taken their place. I'm not the same person as I was, when I came here.

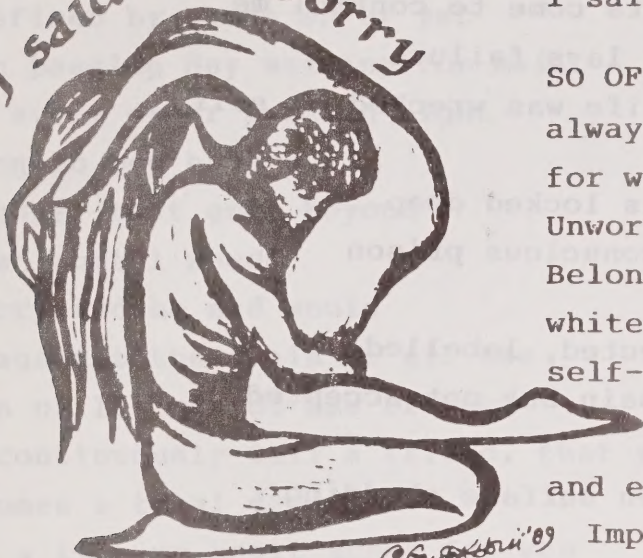
Then, the thought struck me:
none of us are the same. We
are always changing physically,
mentally, emotionally: for the
better or for the worse. Each
of us is in a state of change.
I would challenge the readers
of TIGHTWIRE to examine each
one - our lives and see how we
are changing. Is it for the
better or is it for the worse?
HOW ARE YOU CHANGING?

May GOD bless you as you
engage in self examination
that, by HIS GRACE, you
may develop and change to
HIS GLORY.

Rev. Downs



I said I'm sorry



Matsqui Penitentiary
MAY, 1989

"WHAT - MUST I DO?"

When can life change for better?
Is it me who has to change life for
Myself, or it is something that happens by chance.
Not that I've ever done anything to deserve better.

But a little change would be okay
I guess it's something one has to work at.
But how can I change it for myself. I really don't know how to go about it. I guess I have to start with myself. I also have to learn to love myself.

I never done that before, that's something I find difficult cause I've done so many sick revolting things in my whole life
Maybe that's why my life is so miserable.
But how must I change it?

IN SISTERHOOD

DEBBIE COYLE

I said I'm sorry

SO OFTEN BEFORE
always apologetic
for what?
Unworthy of first-class space
Belongs only to the male-class
white
self-called Christians
professionals?

and even N O W

Imprisoned am I still
unworthy of first-class space?
Yet, I have progressed.

I no longer say
I'M SORRY
for being a woman.

I C E L E B R A T E I T.

by - Gayle Horii

WITHOUT ACCEPTANCE

Long days and nights come to control me
Within these walls lays failure
Of a woman whose life was wrecked by self

Pain comes and goes locked deep
Inside into a subconscious prison

Out of place, rejected, labelled
Feeling the same pain but not accepted

Smiles, laughter on surface shedding
Tears within

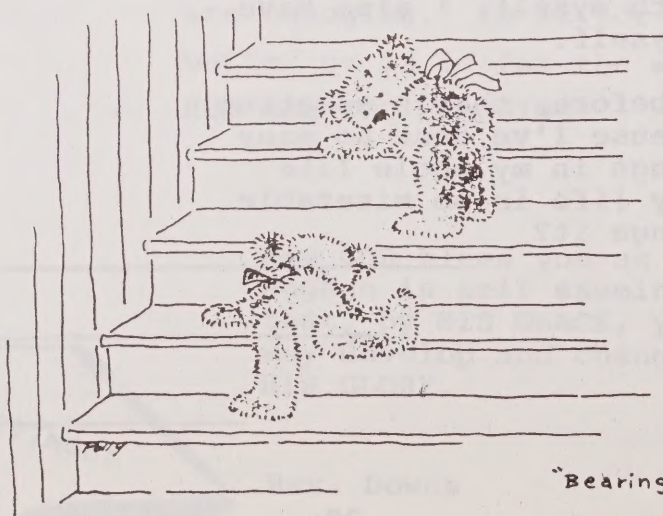
No respect no one to relate
Feeling no remorse only hate

FIGHTING A BATTLE OF ACCEPTANCE
that can't be won

Loneliness, resentments build
Up to erupt a volcano of my self esteem

LAUGHING .. CRYING .. HAPPY .. SAD .. WHO CARES?

"I DO"



"Bearing Up"

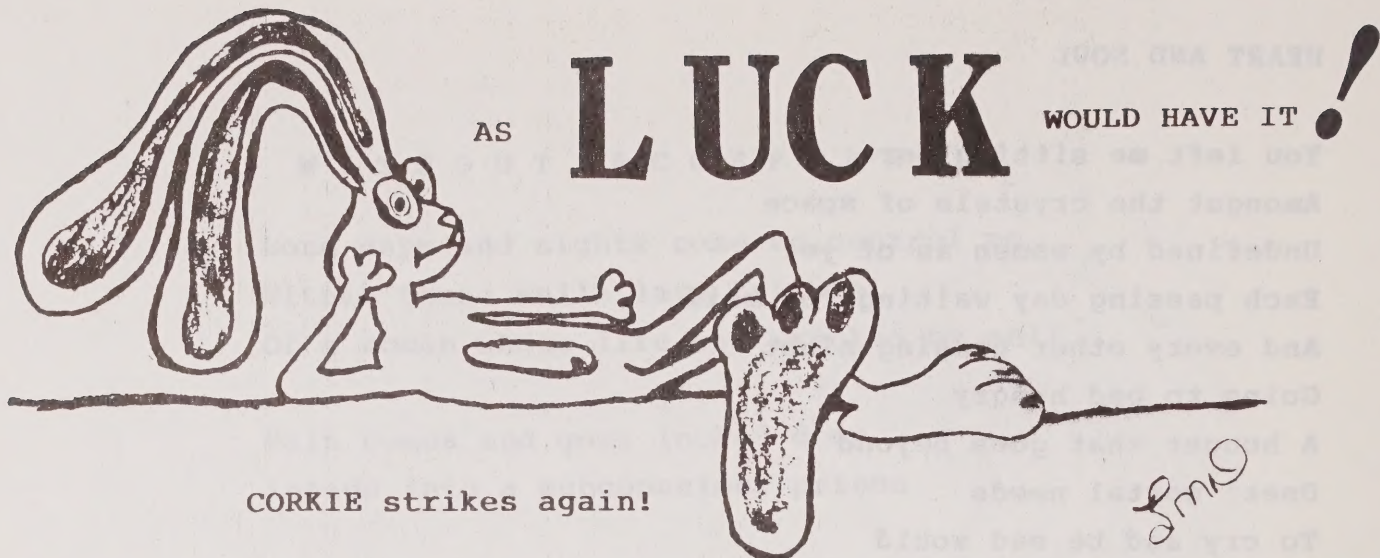
HEART AND SOUL

You left me sitting here
Amongst the crystals of space
Undefined by women as of yet
Each passing day waiting for mail
And every other passing night
Going to bed hungry
A hunger that goes beyond
Ones' mortal needs
To cry and be sad would
Go against the grain of all the
Pain of losing you has brought
To continuously tell a friend, that you are gone
Becomes a total drag
Was a time my heart ached for you
And I often ask myself where has that gone
So carry on with each passing day as I do
Or become very courageous and feel how
Bad all of this feels
But its kinda funny cause when all you ever know is
HEARTACHE and PAIN
A little bit more doesn't really make a big change
If any cause after a while you grow with it
Almost take advantage of it
As a stepping stone for better days to come
And to surely appreciate those little things
The people left do for me
And from each new wound of the heart
I receive, I will be like a woman at war
I shall reload the guns of mind and soul
And continue the battle of pain and hurt.
To a new height and depth
And grow into one strong person
To carry on

COLLEEN STONECHILD

.....





CORKIE strikes again!

While still donning my cleaners' hat, back in the days, when cleaning was my vocation ☹️, I unfortunately found myself in a rather humorous, but somewhat unhealthy situation

One morning, while in the process of performing the duties, for which I was being paid for ☹️ in the school area of this institution, I had occasion to take part in the following discussion with three extremely prominent and very dear teachers :-

Suddenly noticing the time, I quite naturally commented to the teachers "this doesn't seem to be a working school day", as it was far past the regulated school hours and there were no students present, only myself and these teachers. At this point, they became quite concerned, as they too began to wonder, what the problem was.

I jokingly stated "they (the powers to be) have probably LOST me in the count and everyone is locked down!"

Instantaneously, after that remark, the following message blared over the entire P.A. system at P4W :-

"WOULD CORKIE BOYLAND - RETURN TO THE RANGE"

At this point, in a somewhat state of shock - preceeded to give the teachers in question, a piece of my mind - (something of which, I really couldn't afford) ☹ - claiming their LITTLE joke was cute!

While they hopelessly tried without success to deny this allegation - a 2nd more DEMANDING direction blasted out!

"WOULD CORKIE BOYLAND "IMMEDIATELY" RETURN TO THE RANGE"

Now, once again, being no dummy, knew I was IN TROUBLE!

Upon returning to the range - some three flights up at a remarkable rate of speed for a "MATURE" lady of my standing, I was immediately confronted, not only by five ladies in uniform, but a major sector of the population - simultaneously demanding :-



"WHERE THE H E L L HAVE YOU BEEN?"

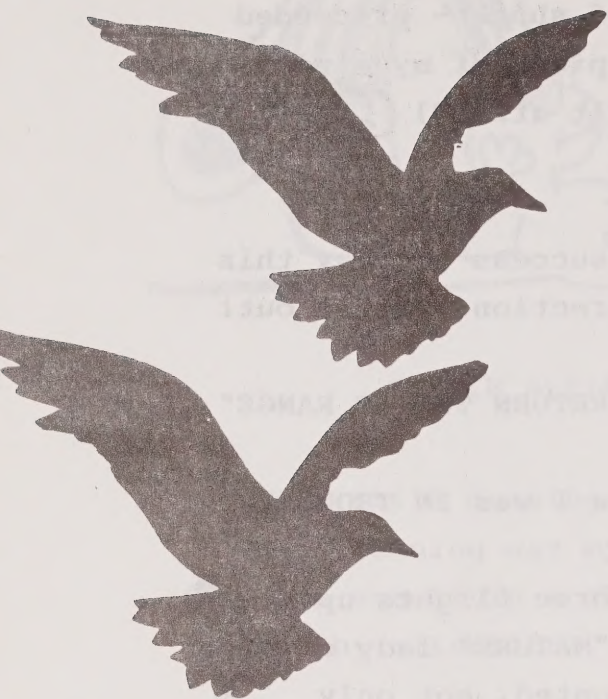
You see, when one is LOST in the count - the entire population here at P4W locks down - movement is frozen until, that individual is located.

Needless to say, I did not EVEN qualify for the Miss Congeniality Award that day and continue to seemingly make my mark here at P4W - I believe it is two strikes down to-date!

I am donning a new hat, here at P4W these days and perhaps, LADY LUCK will be my companion for a change - however, you and I, had better not - hold our breaths!

Corkie

.....



"THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS OF A CONVICT"

- How does it really feel to be a convict?
 - I know ... because I am one ...
 - As Convicts we have lots in common!
-

"What We Feel"

We feel love and sometimes lost, we feel sorrow, pain and we feel frightened and then there is embarrassment and not to forget self-pity, but most of all, we feel **ALONE!** - a feeling, that is so immense, that it overrides all else and never, never seems to go away...

"Love"

We feel a great sense of love for our loved ones, more so, than ever before in our lives, it is much more apparent, as we sit here confined - not being able to physically touch them.

"Lost"

We feel lost - in the sense - where do we go from here? - Do we go back from where we came? or - Do we move forward? or - Do we move at all?

"Sorrow"

We feel sad for all the time, we have wasted in the past - the love we could have shared, in so many ways, for the special moments, we took for granted and for where we are, with our lives at present - and most of all - we grieve for our loved ones, for all the pain, we have caused them.

"Pain"

We feel a very real and deep pain - we hurt within ourselves, that can be extremely physical at moments - when most intense - the breath of life is actually threatened.

"Frightened"

- Fear plays a very major role, in our present lives ...
- Fear of tomorrow, rides over our heads like a massive black cloud ...
- Fear of losing a loved one, whether by death or by their choice ...
- Fear of a place in society to go to ...
Will there be one?
- Fear of the outcome, of our own personal circumstances ...

f e a r - "of simply just not making it"

"Embarrassment"

Yes, sometimes we feel embarrassed, wanting to desperately hide, how we are actually feeling. Tears are hard to hide, but very easy to come by. It is a very definite feeling, that is apart of us and cannot be denied.

"Self-Pity"

Where does it come from? - It comes from nowhere and is sometimes inevitable, but we valiantly try to fight it, but sometimes, only in vain.

"Alone"

We feel so very, very much alone, although at times, we feel comfort from a friend, or a loved one and sometimes a fellow convict, but unfortunately, it is fleeting and **"the state of being alone"**, keeps coming back into our lives - will it ever go away?

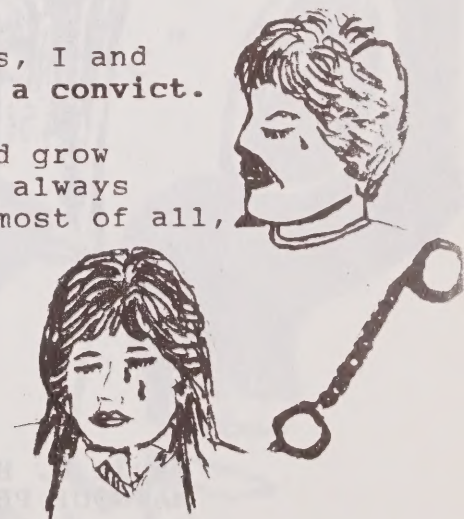
Yes, my fellow convict, I feel all those same feelings, I and especially I, can identify with you, because I am you a **convict**.

Let us be united as best we can, lets feel comfort and grow together in strength and understanding. Also, let us always be aware of all the feelings we share in common, but most of all, let us feel **"love"** for one another.

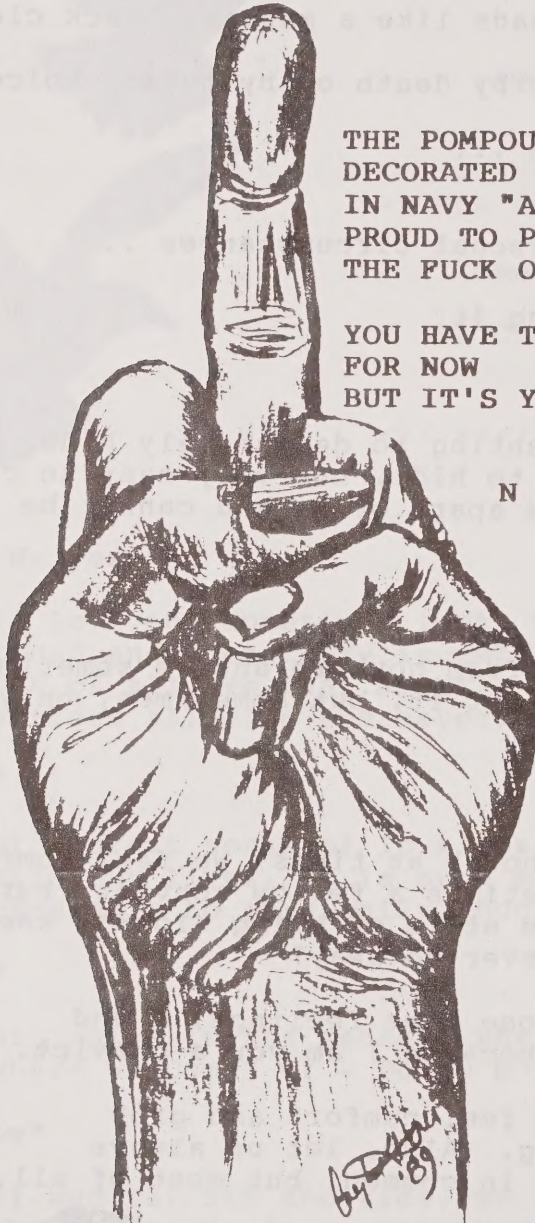
In the final analysis, perhaps we do not have to be completely alone

Christina Dawn **"Corkie"** Boyland
(fellow convict)

September 12, 1988



I'M TIRED OF THIS SHIT!



THE POMPOUS ASSES
DECORATED IN BRASS
IN NAVY "ALTITUDES"
PROUD TO PUNCH
THE FUCK OUT OF YOUR MIND.

YOU HAVE THE KEYS
FOR NOW
BUT IT'S YOUR HOUSE ANYWAY

N O T M I N E

SO, KEEP YOUR KEYS
I'll KEEP MY HEART

FOR ALL THE SISTERS
AND ALL THE BROTHERS
AND ALL THE CHILDREN

I'M NOT AN INMATE
I'M A PRISONER

I'M NOT A GIRL
I'M A WOMAN

and

YOU DON'T OWN ME

Gayle K. Horii,
MATSQUI PENITENTIARY
June 4, 1989

Court backs jails' power U.S.A. to ban visits, publications

- 89 -

By AARON EPSTEIN
Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Prison officials have broad powers to decide which visitors inmates may see and which publications they may read, the Supreme Court ruled Monday.

The justices concluded in a Kentucky case that state prison officials may bar visitors — including members of an inmate's immediate family — without justification or explanation. They also decided that federal officials have wide latitude to bar prisoners from receiving publications they consider "detrimental" to prison discipline.

The two rulings, on identical 6-3 votes that triggered strongly worded dissents, were in line with a Supreme Court trend in the 1980s of limiting the constitutional rights of inmates to ensure order in the prisons.

Five years ago, for instance, the justices asserted that prison guards are free to seize even the most personal possessions of inmates, such as letters from their spouses or pictures of their babies.

Justice John Paul Stevens, a leading critic of the high court's recent trend, denounced Monday's censorship ruling as "a headlong rush to strip inmates of all but a vestige of free communication with the world beyond the prison gate."

The visitation decision, wrote Justice Thurgood Marshall, means that Kentucky officials — whose position drew support from 32 other states — "are free to deny prisoners visits from parents, spouses, children, clergy members and close friends for any reason whatsoever, or for no reason at all."

CANADA

P4W, KINGSTON, Ont.

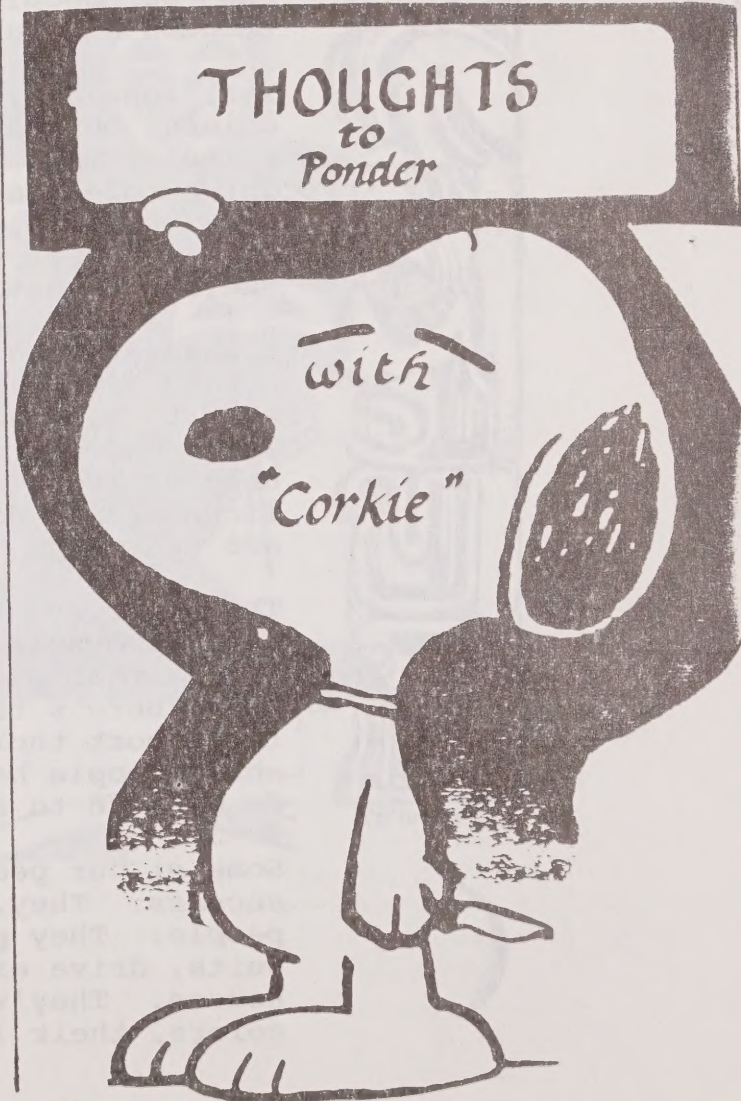
CRITERIA FOR SCREEN-
ING PROCESS RE VISI-
TORS & CORRRESPON-
DENCE

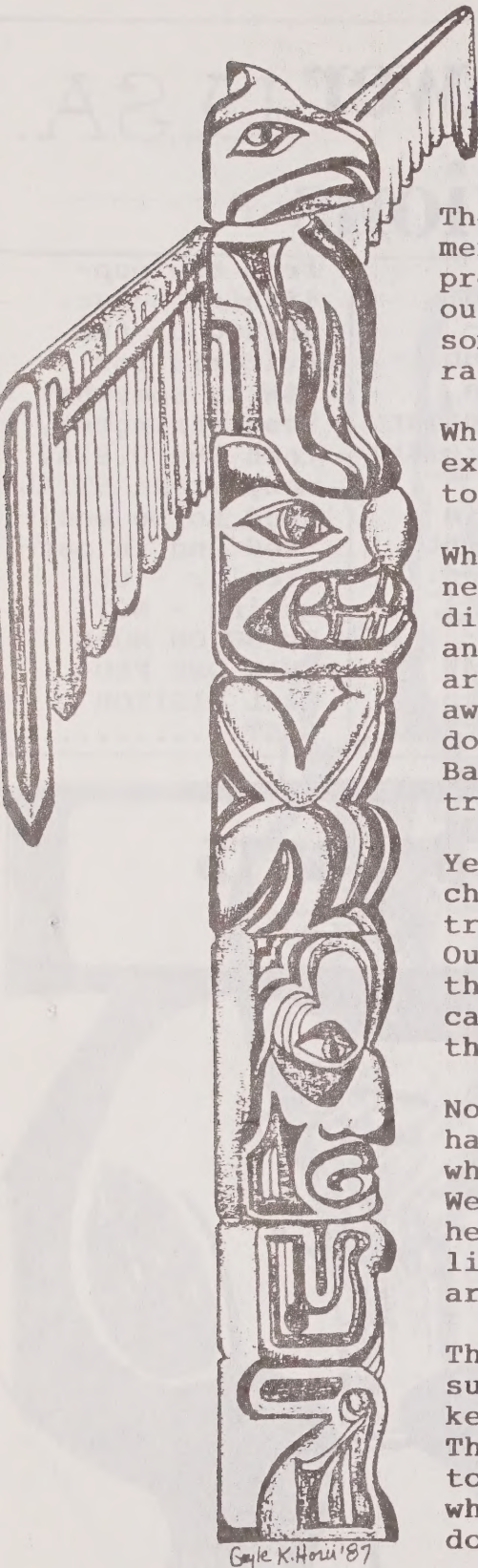
POTENTIAL VISITING APPLICANTS' SCREEN ING PROCEDURES :-

Anyone already on another Federal visitor's list - not eligible. Exceptions - being - spouses/ family. Individuals with past or current records must wait 6 mos after expiry date of their sentence before becoming eligible. At this time, they are subject to close scrutiny. Visitors are subject at random to searches, arranging from a pat - down to skin frisk. Visitors who have been cleared cannot be denied visiting rights without concrete evidence of wrong doing. In the event of DRUGS or other contraband are suspected - measures can be taken to change the open visit to a security one. Also suspension of visiting privileges can be applicable - however only with concrete damage - ing evidence.

PUBLICATIONS' BANNING PRO-
CEDURES:- Publi-
cations of a
radical or under-
ground nature are
prohibited. Material of a
sexual content
is not barred. HOWEVER - all
material re-
ceived at P4W -
must be for-
warded directly

from the pup-
lishing house. ALTHOUGH, the
criteria for
P4W is somewhat
less stringent,
than the U.S.A.
many areas STILL
need to be modi-
fied and in par-
ticular - the
ruling - NOT
BEING ON MORE
THAN ONE FED-
ERAL VISITOR
LIST





The following articles are part of our assignments in our Native Studies Course. It expresses our own thoughts and feelings regarding our culture and our people. If any parts offend some readers, we are not to be condemned for racism, we merely speak what is the truth to us.

When I walked into the Native Studies Course, I expected Text books, schedules for different topics to be followed on a daily basis.

What I didn't expect was the feelings of closeness, warmth, comfort and feeling as one. Nor did I expect the Hostility, Anger, Frustration and Hatred I would be experiencing each time an article was before me. Sure, I have always been aware how the "Dominant Assholes" have looked down on us. I've just never realized just "How Bad" our people and ancestors have been mistreated and taken advantage of ... and still are.

Yes, long ago, our ancestors had councils and chiefs, but their laws were made for their own tribes. THEY DID NOT TRY AND CONTROL ALL NATIONS. Our people lead simple lives. They were happy and they survived. They honored one another and took care of their young and old ones. The land was theirs to hunt and roam freely.

Nowadays the government plays creator. Our people hardly have rights. We're told where to live, when to hunt and how much wild life we're allowed. We're made to pay for most of what we need. God help us if we slaughter wild game without a license. It does not seem to matter if our family's are starving, "We are only Indians".

The majority of our people end up in Iron Cages ... such as myself. They either pull jobs to feed and keep a roof over the heads of their little ones. Then there's the people who will do almost anything to support their alcohol/drug addictions which the white people have so kindly shared with us. Where do we turn to and where do we go from here?

Some of our people have climbed the ladder of success. They, too, have turned upon their own people. They prance around in their three piece suits, drive expensive cars and own beautiful houses. They've forgotten their heritage, their colors, their loyalty. THEY ARE NOW ONE OF THEM!

I use to hang my head in shame when I first entered their concrete world. Now, I walk proudly, holding my head up high. I'm proud of my people and my culture and I'm proud to be a Native Woman.

My anger and hatred is not directed to all white people. It is directed to those who play the creator and decide where and how our people should live their lives.

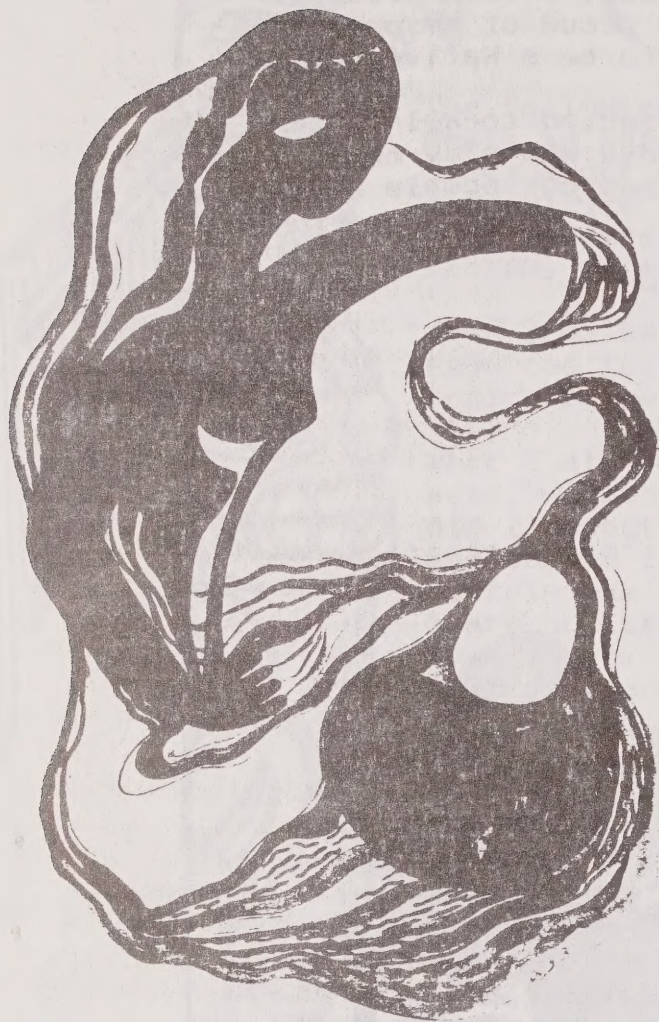
"These people are the government".

IN SPIRIT,

Bev Auger

.....





I am taking this opportunity to voice out my opinions. Witnessing issues in a perspective which consists solely of emotional and personal knowledge spoken from all of my heart.

First of all I do not imply, condemn or discriminate against any specific individual, groups or Task Forces for that matter. This is my opinion is all in one and one in all. What you are about to read is one Native woman taking the time to share what has been sealed up and silences...now is the time to open that up.

While attempting to write on "The Task Force on Aboriginal Peoples in Federal Corrections," my mind was pacing, wondering on the possibility of doing something I can't make myself believe in. Coming to the conclusion of recognizing that I am not out to condemn certain peoples or parties or Task Forces. This is only one of many speaking as an individual. I believe deeply that I will speak when given the chance on any Native issue.

**"My mind is Indian;
My heart is Indian;
My life is Indian."**

I wear such a facade that hides the animosity and hurt I feel until I see a time fit to introduce it to others seeing on the same level as I.

All this deals with us presently and more importantly, our future generations. Any opportunity that opens and invites ways for our people to better our lives inside and outside of prison. "My heart belongs to my people."

All I ask is the truth spoken, written and heard. No more rearranging the puzzle so it looks good in their eyes, for their files. Stop and remember all us women that are striving for survival, for our lives and for our futures. We're left with high hopes and fewer dreams. It is my concern that there is a thirst for understanding, good hearted and open mindedness peopled needed in choosing the right allies acceptable to deal with issues and reports dealing our cards and bring reports, more Task Forces that will show us another solution or, another "answer."

To some people their job is work to be done. Once the job is finished they put us in neat brown files and pass it on to the next one down the line. A better name for their whole concept ...is masking tape...white man style.

"It is our lives and our peoples future at stake here. Decisions made by the "so-called-powers-that-be" that don't have the least bit of understanding of how we live and feel. Do they realize that they hold our future in their hands? They are deciding our futures but fail to acknowledge that it is our lives and bodies in here...not theirs!!

They may not see it now but in 10 years from now when another Task Force is on the prowl and they go through the statistics, analyzing the changes made (if any) and how they've worked. Will they feel satisfied? A better question; Are we satisfied? How do we feel?

I get restless and begin to feel melancholy inside because as I believed and still do that there is always hope. Even through all the interviews being analyzed and watched like animals...of course only willing to help my people....they are supposedly to know our needs better than ourselves. I'm still hoping that maybe something will be successful and will work for our people. I feel raped of what I cherished and cheated for all I gave and never received, not in materialistic sense but, a moral one.

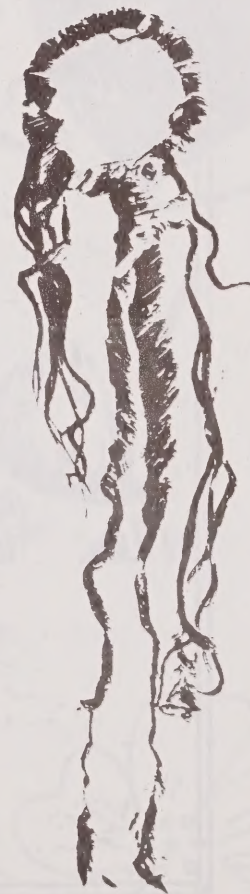
I don't regret all I've seen and what is trying to be done for our Sisters inside. Very little is all I ask and the bottom line to all this talk is....

ACTION TALKS - BULLSHIT WALKS

A Skeptical but
Sincere Sister...

Ms. A. Sayer

Ms. Sandy Sayer
P. 4. W.
July 22, 1989



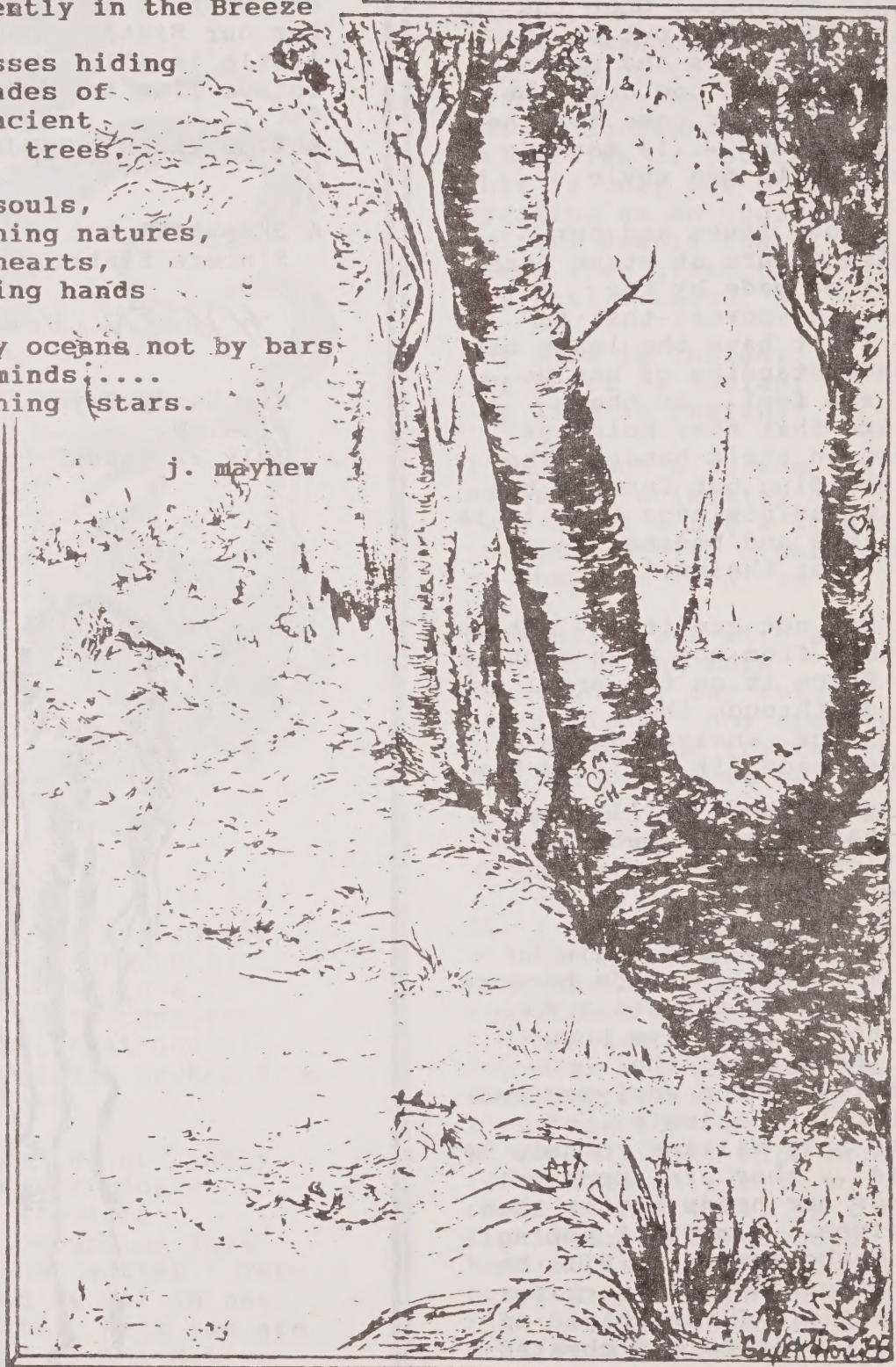
Sunlight Dappled Flowers
Swaying gently in the Breeze

Velvet mosses hiding
In the glades of
ancient
trees.

Touching souls,
Touching natures,
Touching hearts,
Holding hands

Bounded by oceans not by bars
Bounding minds.....
Touching stars.

j. mayhew



For jhon TWinn,s

Proud&Free

'No-matter how far you are,
From me,My Love for you will Alway,s
remain strong And my mind free
knowing that the wall
could never take Away My love
for you, no-matter what
The situtation is..

as i,m your rainbow woman.....

Who,ll only shower you with
real love and respect...xo
This Love is sensitive and soft
as a feather.
But it is Also,,,
strong with a Destiny
and the Beginning, and end of
this Destiny.....
Is with a smile upon the Heart
Knowing that Reality is in this
part.

The part of Love
we shower one another with..
The part of Happiness
that we,ll Both place in each
other,s life,s.....
The Part of respect that
come,s from within the Both of us...
The part of understanding
that come,s from our very soul,s
The part of honesty
with each other
is within us to Eternity...
This is the unExplained Beauty
I Hold in my very Being.
for the one i love in my life
and will be very proud
to share it with you
in my Life..
with this to Destiny
and forever to Eternity
with this love and respect
of the feather
that is Alive and free....
In Struggle with all my love and respect
Love your Lady "Friend" tamara papinxoxo



C.S.C « VACATION

W E L C O M E !

- * A LIMESTONE RESORT situated next door to the Kingston Yacht Club.

This hotel has accommodations for approximately 128 guests with a further 20 penthouse suites - COMPLETE with **private** individual washroom facilities for all.

NOTE :- The comfortable common room. A fully modern Kitchen and a hospital on the premises.

FOR YOUR RECREATIONAL ENJOYMENT - this resort has a variety of indoor and outdoor activities :-

- * BILLIARD ROOM
- * WEIGHT ROOM
- * GYMNASIUM
- * $\frac{1}{4}$ MILE TRACK
- * BASEBALL FIELD
- * TENNIS COURT
- * PICNIC TABLES
(for quaint get-togethers with other guests at the resort)

For a feeling of **PRIVACY** and **SECLUSION**, this resort **FEATURES** a **20' FOOT WALL** surrounding it, in its entirety.

ALL THIS AND MORE could be yours - **ACT TODAY** - to ensure your name won't fall too far down the waiting list.

NOTE :- "VACATION PACKAGES" are **AVAILABLE** for short or long term accommodations - **2 to 25 years** are offered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION :- contact your local court house for your **VACATION PERMIT**

SIGN UP TODAY - for a trip of a **life time** - the vacation you won't be able to forget

C O U R T E S Y - **C.S.C. VACATIONS**

your agent - **Y O G I**

HEY

MARC!

THIS DAMSEL IS S T I L L
WAITING TO BE RESCUED

WHERE THE H E L L ARE YOU?

YOU SAY YOUR ARMOUR IS NOT RUSTY!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR H O R S E !

IS HE FIT FOR TRAVEL? - OR SHOULD YOU
SERIOUSLY CONSIDER ANOTHER MODE OF
TRANSPORT?

HOWEVER - HAVE NO FEAR SWEETHEART,
"YOUR LADY" IN WAITING  - WILL "ALWAYS"
WAIT FOR YOU! 

YOUR SLAVE IN LOVE - "SWEETNESS"



"Le Pouvoir de l'amour"

EL ENGAÑO DE LA VIDA HUMANA

Sin tener de mi error conocimiento,
Los años de una vida tan perdida
Siendo incurable su terrible herida
Años no fueron, siglos de tormento

Vivi muriendo; oh loco pensamiento
¿Como quieres vivir, siendo homicida
Tu vida breve de tu propia vida,
Hidra interior del ciego entendimiento

Vive para morir; y si te fias
De la vida que traes, cuenta los daños,
Causa exterior de logicas porfias.

ON THE DECEPTIVENESS OF HUMAN LIFE

Without any knowledge of my error
The years of wasted life
Their terrible wound being incurable
Were not years...
but centuries of torment.

I lived by dying; oh mad thought
How can you choose to live
Your brief life being your own life's murderer..
An inner Hydra of blind understanding?

Live in order to die. And if you Trust
In the Life you are leading
Count your hurts as the External cause
of your logical persistence....
in errors.

ALBA GUIRALES

Fille de Rue

J'ecoute la voix abstraite
En descente vers la defaite
D'illusions perdue
D'une fille de rue...

Elle a mal
Elle souffre
Le mal d'amour
Le gouffre

La brume au fond des yeux
Elle ne joue plus le jeu
Elle affiche pourtant un sourire
Qui n'est plus difficile de decrirre...

Elle a mal
Elle souffre
Le mal d'amour
Le gouffre

Un jour en silence
Elle est venue accoste a mon ile
Un jour en silence
M'a dit qu'elle allais vers la
deririe...

Elle a mal
Elle souffre
Le mal d'amour
Le gouffre...

Par un beau soir
De la 7ieme saison
Elle n'a pas volue faire valoir
La vie et ces raisons...

Je savais...
Ce qu'elle cachait
Dans un sourire
Dans un silence
Elle s'eteignit tout doucement
Avec une partie de mon tourment...

Une nuit
Une cellule
Une ile
Illusions perdue d'une fille de rue

Un jour
Une cellule
Mon ile
Je pleure l'amitie perdue
D'une Fille de Rue...

*Michelle
D'Amour
NATASHA
DE L'AUTRE
CÔTÉ
CHRONOMETRE
SOUS
HEURE!*



THE BALLAD OF GAYLE HORII

She's a woman of **courage**, great **pride**, and **strength**
We're all born to something, till we're hell bound and bent
On achieving our potential
No matter what that maybe
All she really wanted, was to be near her family.
They put her in prison, half way across the country
For a crime of passion and family honour
No one deserves to suffer, that much for a society
Who only seeks revenge and punishment
The laws on Parliament Hill are signed
In mental **torture** and human blood.
All they know, is the almighty dollar
They don't know about family or love
She's a mother, a wife, a lover, a friend
A normal person making rational decisions
She's not happy being here alone
With no relief from the high grey walls
And the sound of the big steel keys
The effects of the torture, only makes things clear
Make her senses more keen
To do what she's gotta do
When there's something moral to be done.
So she tried to exist at the P4W
Knowing her loved ones were sick sad and blue
She, **determined** to make her plight known
So the government would send her back home
There, she could serve her sentence in her home province
But, as you well know
The government has no moral conscience
While she stayed in prison, in Kingston
Her husband was gravely ill in B.C.
She had no other choice, but be willing
To end her own life
Because, what is life without a family.

She spent most of 87 and 88 trying to
Change the hearts of those in Ottawa
Till she came to deaths' door
And that's when her captors finally saw
The **courage**, great **pride** and **strength**
She had and how far she would go
To get to her family and home.

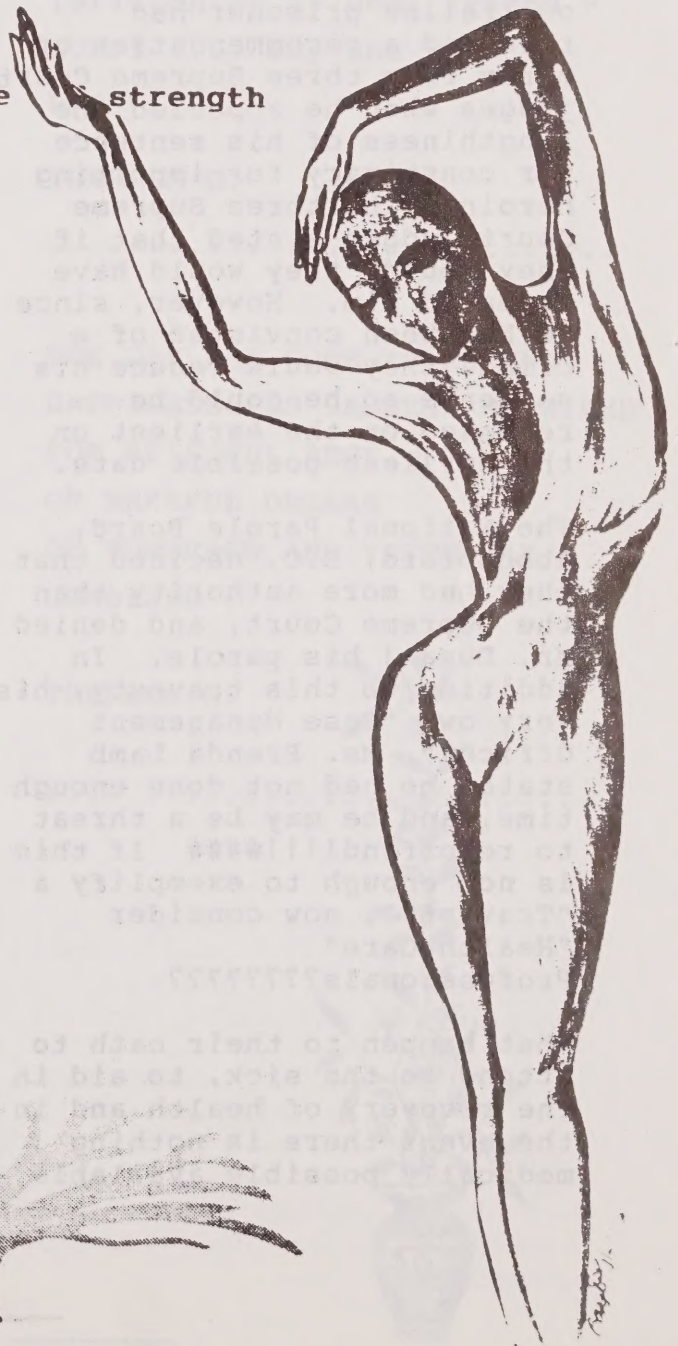
Now in early 89, she goes to B.C.
To a men's prison in Masqui
To serve the rest of her sentence close to her home
Making her time a little easier because
She won't feel so alone
I **SALUTE** you my friend
I admire your **courage**, great **pride** and **strength**
We're all born to something, till
We're hell bound and bent.

from - a Spiritual Kin
PRISONER SISTER-IN-ARMS

Ann Riddell

February 10/89

GAYLE HORII - formerly
Co-Editor of **TIGHTWIRE**
& an on-going contri-
butor corresponds from
Matsqui Prison - Abbotsford,
B.C.



TRAVESTY

To Whom It May Concern:

The full meaning of the word travesty is attested to and defined in an event early this morning at Mission Hospital where a prisoner of Matsqui Penitentiary in Abbotsford, B.C. died from the effects of a terminal illness coupled with complications from diabetes.

The facts will show that

KARNAL DUSANJ

our fellow prisoner had received a recommendation of mercy from three Supreme Court judges when he appealed the lengthiness of his sentence for conspiracy for importing heroin. The three Supreme Court judges stated that if they could, they would have released him. However, since he had been convicted of a crime, they would reduce his sentence so he could be released on the earliest on the earliest possible date.

The National Parole Board, Abbotsford, B.C. decided that they had more authority than the Supreme Court, and denied Mr. Dusanj his parole. In addition to this travesty, his very own "Case Management Officer", Ms. Brenda Lamb stated he had not done enough time, and he may be a threat to re-offend!!!!#### If this is not enough to exemplify a "Travesty", now consider "Health Care" Professionals?????????

What happen to their oath to attend to the sick, to aid in the recovery of health and in the event there is nothing medically possible available -

to ensure that the patient has dignity and that the patient is comforted as much as possible??

I have heard the phrase "The System Has failed Him"....I say to this...This System has Killed Him." Certainly, his illness -eventually -would have taken his life, but in the least, he would have been able to die with his family nearby, with the knowledge that he was a Human Person. It is this system, the very system who supposedly represents the public, that denied him and his family any sense of human DIGNITY. This system, with its entourage of "professionals," is brutalizing, degrading, demeaning, and dehumanizing nearly 25,000 people on a daily basis.

I have had personal contact with three prisoners who have died in prison. I have just applied for the Royal Prerogative of Mercy for a man still alive. He fell again last night in the hospital where I reside, and has his head bandaged and stitched. The manner in which he is held is not Healthy, it will kill him.

There is no excuse for neglect, when this Cystem now employs 3 times as many staff members as prisoners they are responsible for. There is no excuse for the apathy of the Canadian Public and a government which permits these Travesties of Justice to continue in their own back yard, while they focus their outrage on the brutality in other countries.

Wake-up! Canada! This time it is my friend Karnal who died, to-morrow, it could be any of you! The money spent to confuse you, to betray you and to justify \$140 million for a new computer for CSIS and the money used to build 3 Maximum Security Prisons in the past 2 years, and 3 more in the next 2 years, may house more people than what you think.

FROM A GHETTO WALL IN AUSTRIA

When they came and took the Jews away.....
I didn't speak up.
When they came and took the man down the street....
I didn't speak up.
When they came and took my neighbor next door....
I didn't speak up.
When they came and took me-
THERE WAS NO ONE LEFT TO SPEAK

I call on the Canadian Public to get involved at the prisoner level...to find out the T R U T H about what is going on behind the walls that keep them out.

The only way possible is to set up Community-Based Information Centres with petitions available to express your viewpoint to be sent to the House of Commons. Those politicians who do not release the whole T R U T H , the full T R U T H and nothing but the T R U T H should be voted out of office.

The Time is N O W!

In the Gentleness of Sisterhood,

Gayle K. Horii

Gayle K. Horii

June 9, 1989

Y E S T E R D A Y

lay in

the graveyard

weeping

T O D A Y

a flower

has grown

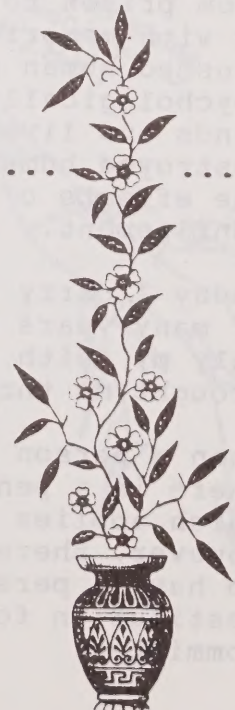
(written by my dear friend -
BUFFY may she rest in
peace)

THERESA G.

.....

THE DAY HAS COME TO AN END
HAPPINESS AND SADNESS ENTWINED
FOR BLISSFUL REST,
OR WAKEFUL DREAMS
OF TOMORROW AND YESTERDAY
COMBINED

THERESA G.



PRISON:-

JIM CAVANAGH
Director, Kingston Chapter,
Prison Fellowship of Canada
.....

CONFINEMENT

I write with respect to the effect of confinement in prisons. Canada has not advanced very much in helping those confined to change and equip themselves for re-adjustment upon release into society.

If one asks what is the mandate of those in charge of confining prisoners in any prison, the reply will be "we are required to confine each individual for x number of years or months as prescribed by the Courts."

I have been confined in a Training School as a child, jails as a teenager and twenty years in various Maximum Prisons across Canada. The effects I've seen on individuals due to different lengths of time confined, under conditions which vary from prison to prison has left me with memories of many crushed human spirits, psychologically shattered minds and lives of many destroyed human beings due to the effects of prolonged confinement.

Today I carry the mental scars of many years of confinement, only my faith in God has brought me through.

When a person breaks a law there is a penalty to pay which applies to everyone, however, there are other ways to have a person make restitution for most crimes committed.

The easiest way all countries find is to just confine the offender, rather than create alternatives to warehousing people for periods of time. It is costing the tax payer more in the long run with this system which has proven to be ineffective for ages.

How can anyone in society even expect a prisoner released after being confined for ten solid years in prison environment where their daily life has been controlled by others twenty-four hours a day to come out into society and function normally?

In prison there is very little responsibility given to the individuals there. The routine is the same basically three hundred and sixty-five days of the year. So one almost becomes a robot to the routine. When released to society after the term of confinement it is a cultural shock. One prisoner related to me, he felt socially retarded due to the social changes that had taken place in society while he was confined for so long in prison.

The Government and Society have to develop alternatives to confinement or suffer results of those affected from long term confinement when they eventually get released if they are unable to re-adjust.

It's having problems
struggling to live
because there's too
many "BUGS" in it

It's not growing the way
it's supposed to! I must
be giving it the wrong
"FERTILIZER". I better
change it again!?

It's
Not growing
properly
maybe your
overwatering
it?

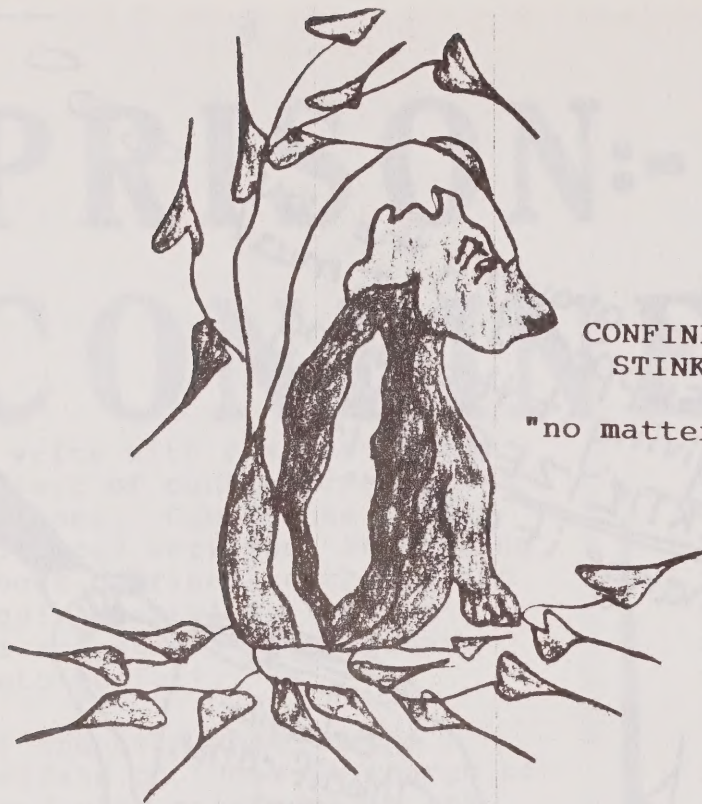
Behavior
Modification
And
Inmate
Programming

It's
dying!
I think it's
Because it's
Not in its natural
ENVIRONMENT!?

ptw
reprogramming
For Society
PLANT

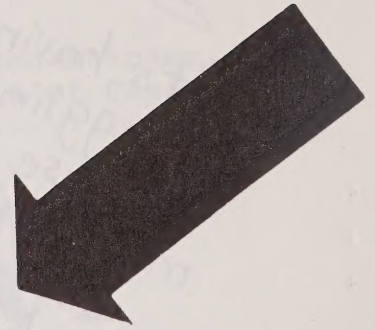
INMATE
Personal
Growth
&
Progress

J.M.D.
1989



CONFINEMENT
STINKS!

"no matter, which form"



BEING CONFINED

The **act of confinement**, whether it be through the penal system, or a mental institution, a nursing home facility, in one's home or even in one's own mind - **REGARDLESS** - it is extremely lonely, painful and can be devastating to one's being

"WHAT THEY FEEL"

They feel completely cut-off from loved ones and friends and consequently feel, they have very little to contribute to them, leaving them with a real sense of "**less value**" and a loss of self-esteem.

The loss of dignity is eminent.

FEAR plays a major role in their lives; loss of control, death of a loved one, life will remain as it is, rejection and most of all, a devastating fear of just being forgotten by all and not being important to their loved ones.

Because of all the **FEAR** - an immense sense of doom is prevalent.

The loss of hope prevails.

The despairing feeling of **HELPLESSNESS** is complete. (A sudden feeling of total dependency on others is not easy to contend with) a real sense of **insecurity** is evident within their lives.

Their suffering is far beyond comprehension to mankind, who has never walked that path.

"WHAT THEY NEED"

They need your love, caring and support, but most of all - they need your **continued** presence in their lives, whether it be through visits, phone calls or letters, always bearing in mind, consistency is of the upmost importance.

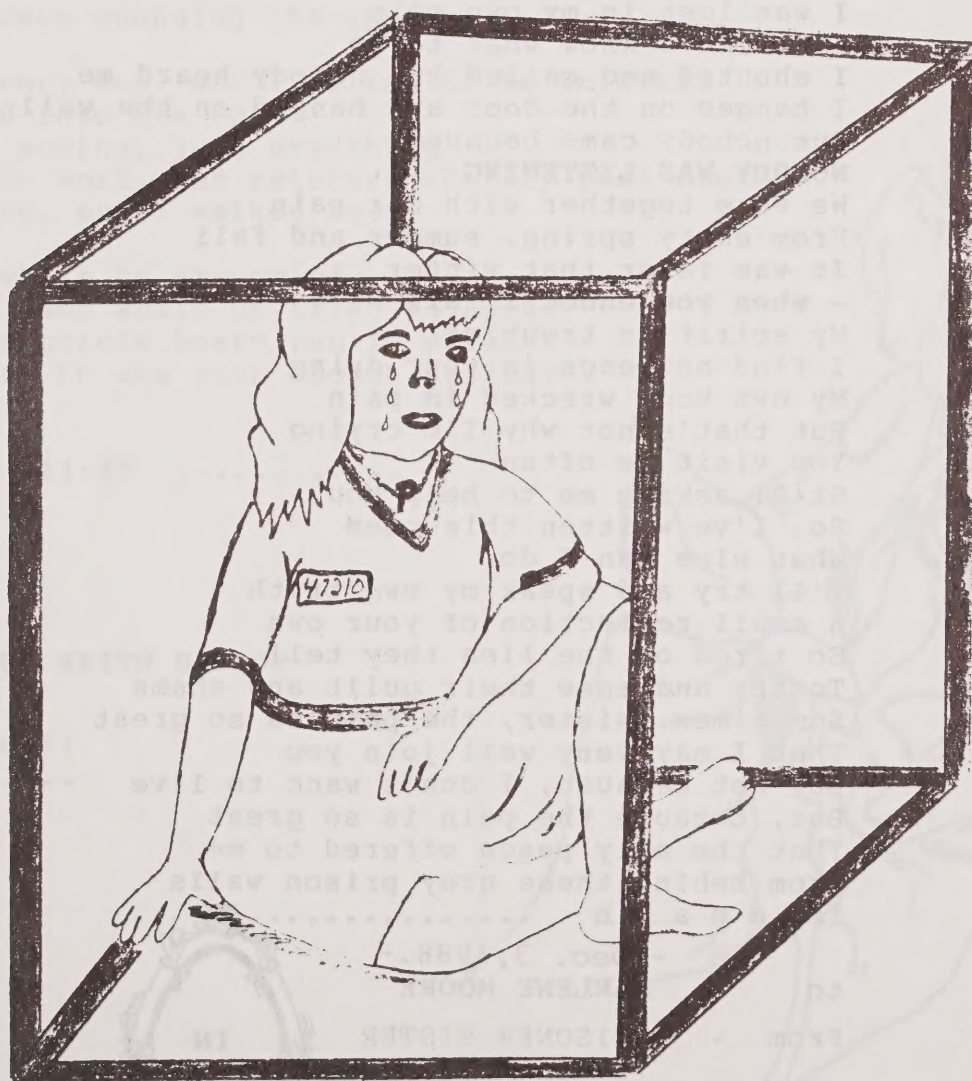
They simply, but desperately need **YOU!** - because my friend, they will not succeed without you.

Should I have the opportunity in life - I will make it my major priority to **"seek out"** that confined being and be there both physically and emotionally for them with great conviction. There is nothing more cruel - then to come into a confined person's life and then walk away, **except** - perhaps to not be there at all

FOR ME, I have not only love, caring and compassion to offer them, but I have the greatest gift of all **"understanding"** from where they are coming from - you see my friend - I am at present, walking that same path --- **I am confined**

"A FRIEND is the one, who comes in - when the WHOLE WORLD has gone out!"

Christina Dawn **CORKIE** Boyland
December / 88



IN MY SISTER'S SHADOW

I know you my sister
Because I walk in your shadow
Your memory haunts me inside
These prison walls
I can still see you walking
In quite desperation
Sharing your courage and hiding your pain
I can still hear you screaming
For someone to help you
When the pain was so great
All that was left to living
Was **d e a t h**
I still see you smiling
At the inhumanity of your jailers
Though your pain was over-powering
You never let them see you cry
Yes, I know you my sister
Because **I walk in your shadow**
And what they did to you
They try to do to me now
In the times we were together
When you were asking me to help you
I was lost in my own pain
And didn't know what to do
I shouted and called but nobody heard me
I banged on the door and banged on the wall
But nobody came because
NOBODY WAS LISTENING
We were together with our pain
From early spring, summer and fall
It was later that winter
- when you ended it all -
My spirit is troubled
I find no peace in your dying
My own body wrecked in pain
But that's not why I'm crying
You visit me often
Still asking me to help you
So, I've written this poem
What else can I do
I'll try and speak my own truth
A small reflection of your own
So tired of the lies they tell
To try and ease their guilt and shame
Sometimes, sister, the pain is so great
That I may very well join you
But not because, I don't want to live
But, because the pain is so great
That the only peace offered to me
From behind these grey prison walls
is **d e a t h**

- Dec. 3, 1988.-
to - **MARLENE MOORE**
from - **PRISONER SISTER**
Ann Riddell



ADDEAD PUNISHMENT

For four and one half months
I played Mozart while he coughed
I read Durkheim while he waited
I watched The Massacre at Beigging
While his lungs bled.

For four and one half months
I wrote letters while he groaned
I listened to Pachelbel
While he waited for the Parole Board to free him.

For four and one half months
I put on lipstick while he spat
I ironed my shirt while he waited
I came and went while he sat
Wretched in his wheel chair.

At four and one half hours
After midnight I awakened
It was silent
Except for the clicking of the oxygen in his room next to mine.

I heard the clangs of the tants being replaced
And the nurses changing the sheets.

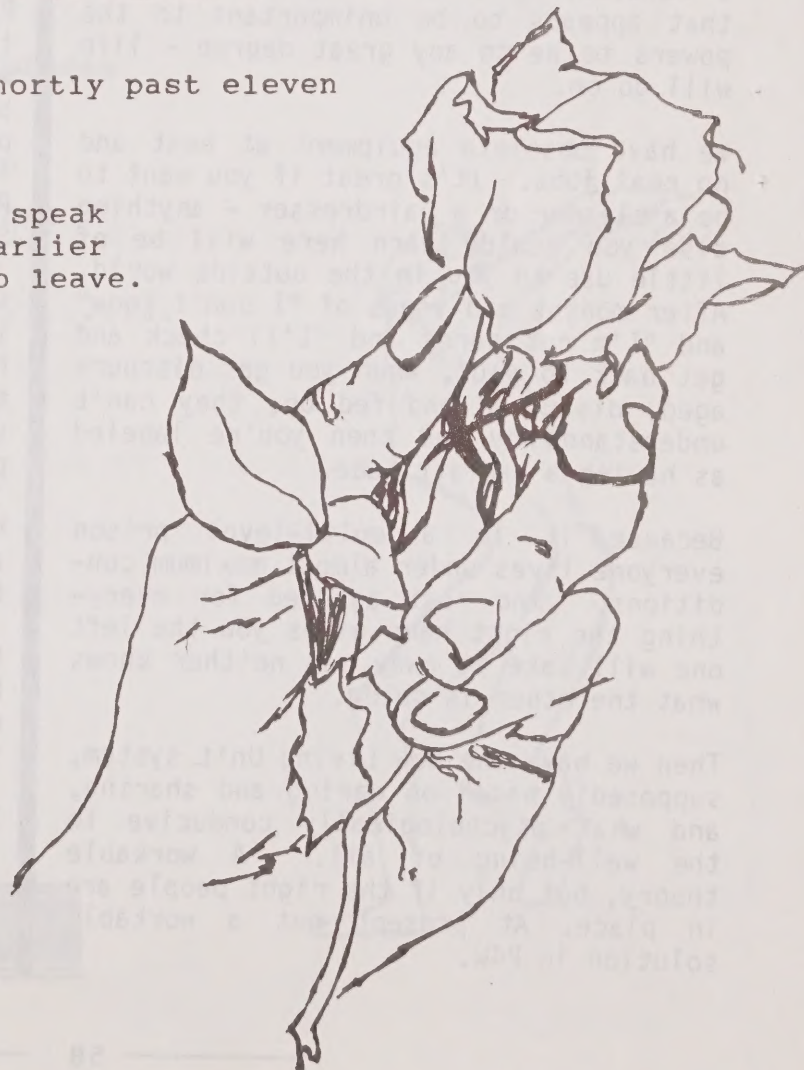
It was a sunny day, and I waited to be unlocked
And glanced into his room
He was not moving, just breathing
So I went to work, and returned shortly past eleven
He was dying, but I walked in.

I watched while he struggled
I held his hand while he tried to speak
I heard the parole board was in earlier
To make sure he was sick enough to leave.

HE DIED AT 11:45

IN MEMORY OF KEITH GALLOP

Gayle K. Horii
.....



LIFE IN CANADA'S ONLY PRISON FOR WOMEN

P 4 W
KINGSTON, ONTARIO

For some it can be a horrifying experience. People from all walks of life, all nationalities, vacuum packed and confined in a limited space.

Because of the close confinement friendships and relationships intensify far more than in the free world. You live with each other's pain, you share their hopes, dreams, fears, their joys and pain.

It's a house with no answers. The most common reply is "I'll get back to you", six months later you may well still be waiting. No two members of authority give you the same answer.

You're subjected to seeing your friends who can't handle the games and the indecision, slash, maybe even hang themselves. If you care about people it has a devastating effect on you. However, that appears to be unimportant to the powers to be to any great degree - life will go on.

We have obsolete equipment at best and no real jobs. It's great if you want to be a cleaner or a hairdresser - anything else you could learn here will be of little use to you in the outside world. After months and years of "I don't know" and "I'm not sure" and "I'll check and get back to you", when you get discouraged, disgusted and fed up, they can't understand why and then you're labeled as having a bad attitude.

Because it is a multi-level prison everyone lives under almost maximum conditions. And rest assured for everything the right hand gives you the left one will take it away, so neither knows what the other is doing.

Then we have the New Living Unit system, supposedly based on caring and sharing, and what psychologically conducive to the well-being of all. A workable theory, but only if the right people are in place. At present not a workable solution in P4W.

To be able to pass a competition does not make you a good unit manager. There are CX staff who care more. If you're not a caring individual who has time to listen, and who cares about people in general and can treat everyone as an individual then you're not the right person for the job.

Then we have the Warden, a very nice lady who dresses nicely, but is nowhere to be found if you should need her. You're either told "she's away" or "she's in a meeting" or "put in a request and she'll get to you". (The question is when!!) I personally have five requests in from December 1988 concerning a proposal to make a more amiable place to be a safety proposal. I have yet to hear from her eight months later. The Warden -- Thanks but NO THANK YOU!!!!

Pray for strength daily and never let them get you to the point of desperation where you feel your only answer is to slash, for if you do, the help for your problem you will receive is to be thrown into seg and placed under observation. Punished for being in distress. Great System.

What's living at Prison for Women like, I really wouldn't know, I merely exist here and will continue to do so until the day they open the door and let me go. In the meantime, I'll continue to pray daily that I'll still be fit to live in the free world after the C.S.C. has finished kicking me and finds itself another victim that they can put through.

Do to the fact that it's dangerous to have an opinion and less impressive to express such an opinion...I chose to remain... Anonymous

Editor's Note: At this point in time roughly 10% of the population is classified as Maximum security and yet the Rules, Regulations and Counts are structured for a maximum security institution.



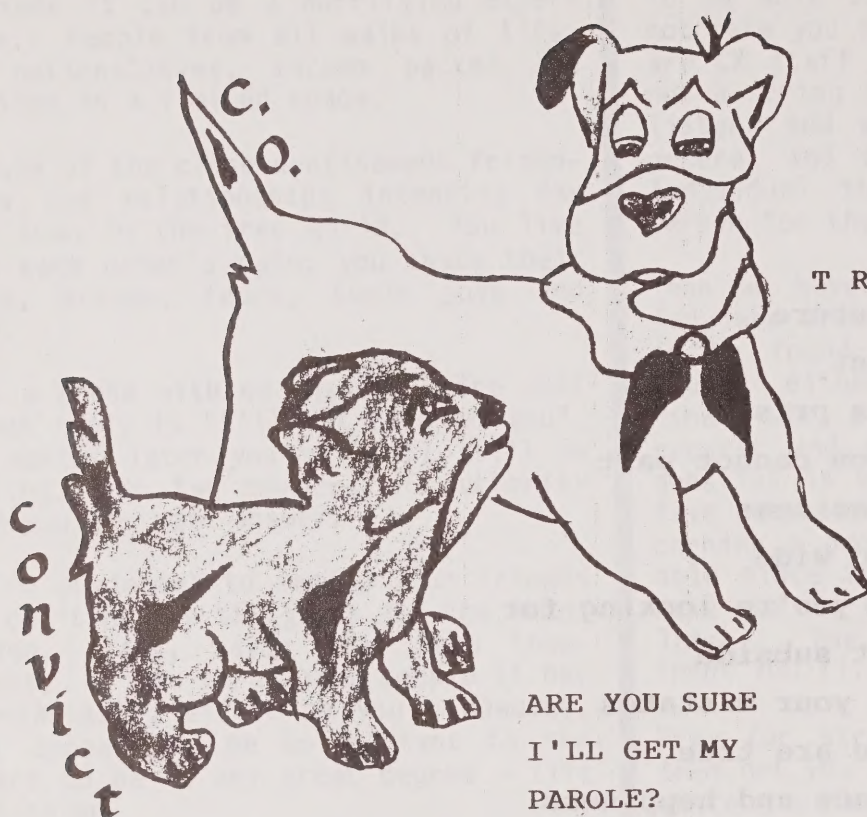
R U N N I N G !

Running from your future
Drowning in your past
You build yourself a prison
Through the gates you cannot past
Your soul is ever restless
You search the world wide
You can't find what you're looking for
These feelings won't subside
When you learn from your mistakes
When to yourself you are true
You'll find that peace and happiness
Was right in side you
The prison gates then will open
You'll know just when you're free
Free to live your life
And your greatest destiny

submitted by

"RONNIE"





T R U S T M E !

(I think the
little guy's
in TROUBLE!)

ARE YOU SURE
I'LL GET MY
PAROLE?

THE KEY TO SURVIVAL WITHIN THESE PRISON WALLS - IS NOT
TO TRUST EXPLICITLY IN ONLY ONE AREA/PERSON OR SOURCE.
YOU CAN ONLY BE COMPLETELY TRUSTWORTHY OF Y O U R S E L F !

WHEN MAKING DECISIONS - RE PAROLE OR OTHERWISE - RESEARCH
EVERY AVENUE, CHECK EVERY ANGLE - IT'S YOUR LIFE - NOT
THEIRS - WHO IS MORE DEPENDABLE AND TRUSTWORTHY - THAN
YOURSELF?

"RESEARCH" - IS THE KEY TO POTENTIAL SUCCESS

S

SHAKEN HANDS
TREMBLING FEET
ONE MORE HIGH
TWICE DEFEAT
DRIED AWAY
FROM LOVE ONCE SHOWN
LIVIN WITH THE WIND
KEEPING ALONE

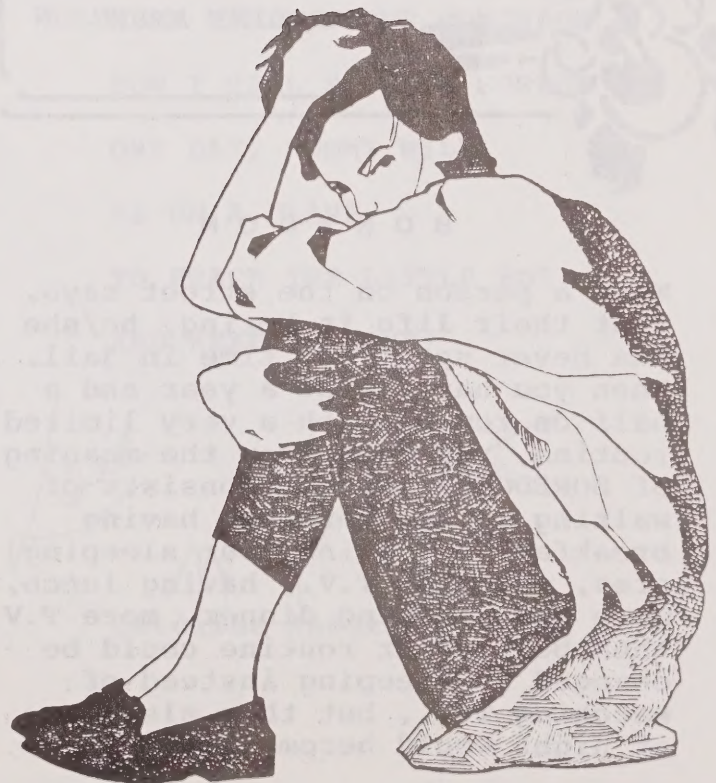
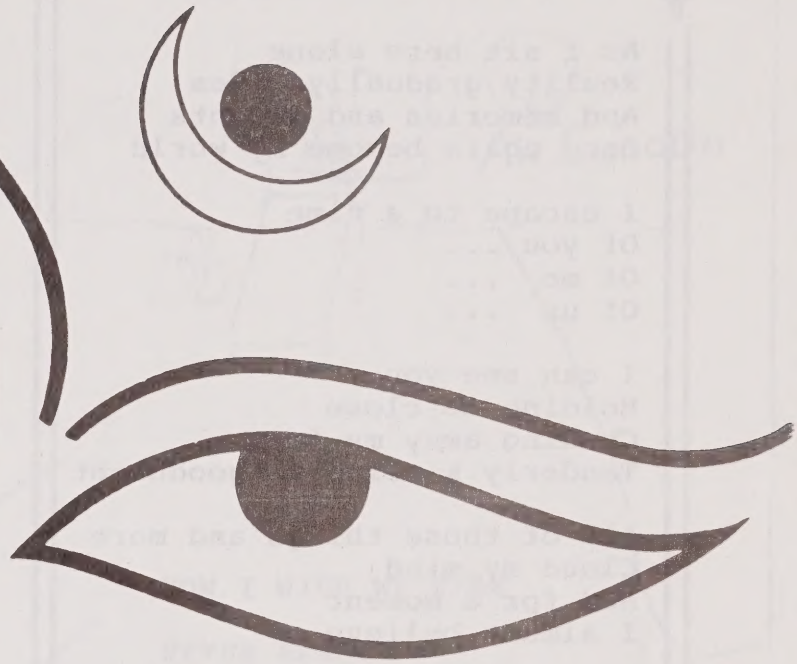
ALIENATED BABY
WHAT DO I DO
CRAVEN THE ANSWER
DEPENDING ON YOU

STOMACH GONE TENSE
FEELING THE GAMES
TOMORROWS FOREVER
TODAY IS A SHAME

FEELING LIGHT HEADED
QUIVERING INSIDE
DRUGS ON MY MIND
TRY TO ABIDE

OH FUCK IT !

L E N N Y



Y E S T E R D A Y

As I sit here alone
Reality gradually fades
And memories and moments
Once again become my world

I escape to a time
Of you ...
Of me ...
Of us ...

I can see you
Holding me close
Chasing away my fears
Tenderly kissing me goodnight

All of those things and more
Cloud my mind
And for a moment
I almost believe

Then tears burn my eyes
And slowly
I remember
It was YESTERDAY

CAROLINE ANDERSON

If lucky enough to get a job as unit cleaner, the time would go a little faster, since you would have to mop floors, vacuum, clean bathrooms, wash tables, do windows and take out garbage. When necessary you would fill spray bottles so that the other girls could clean their sleeping areas. Some other ways to use up the dead time would be knitting, crocheting, reading, and doing correspondence courses, which would help you to upgrade your education.

When you are going to work, doing household duties, caring for children and the many other things that happen in a day; sitting around doing the previously mentioned daily activities is utterly boring. A person forced into that kind of situation finds that a deep depression may more than likely set in and if not dealt with quickly, can be very harmful. You know that no matter what happens that life on the outside will never be boring again.

LINDA BOWEN

B O R E D O M

When a person on the street says, that their life is boring, he/she has never spent any time in jail. When you have spent a year and a half on remand with a very limited routine, you soon know the meaning of BOREDOM. The day consists of walking in the morning, having breakfast, cleaning your sleeping area, watching T.V., having lunch, more T.V., eating dinner, more T.V., then bed. Your routine could be changed by sleeping instead of watching T.V., but then sleeping at night would become difficult.

WE INVITE YOUR VIEWS :-

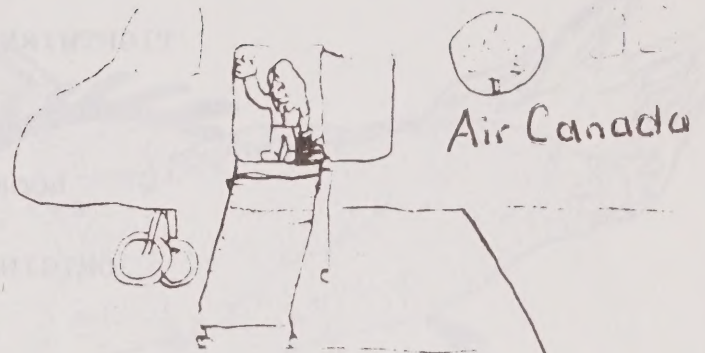
Should you our reader, have any comments, please do not hesitate to write the EDITOR.....

EDITOR,
T I G H T W I R E,
P.O. Box 515,
KINGSTON, Ontario.
K7L 4W7

.....

ADAM

THE DISTANCE IS LONG
TIME SO SHORT
HOW I FEEL YOU
IN MY HEART
I TRY TO FILL MY TIME WITH
PLEASURE AND PARTS
BUT NOTHING CAN FILL
MY EMPTY HEART
MY LITTLE BOY WHO
IS IN THE DARK



HOW I WISH WE WERE
NEVER APART
FOR SOMETIMES, I HAVE THIS
VISION, WHICH KEEPS OUR
SPIRITS LIKE A PICTURE OF ART
HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW
HOW I FEEL SO MUCH SORROW
ONE DAY, MOMMY WILL
BE ON A PLANE
TO REACH THE LITTLE BOY
AND KEEP US SANE!

Love
Mommy XO
Caroline Anderson

NOTICE !

P 4 W

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You are wasting your time
But if you have come because your liberation
is bound up with mine
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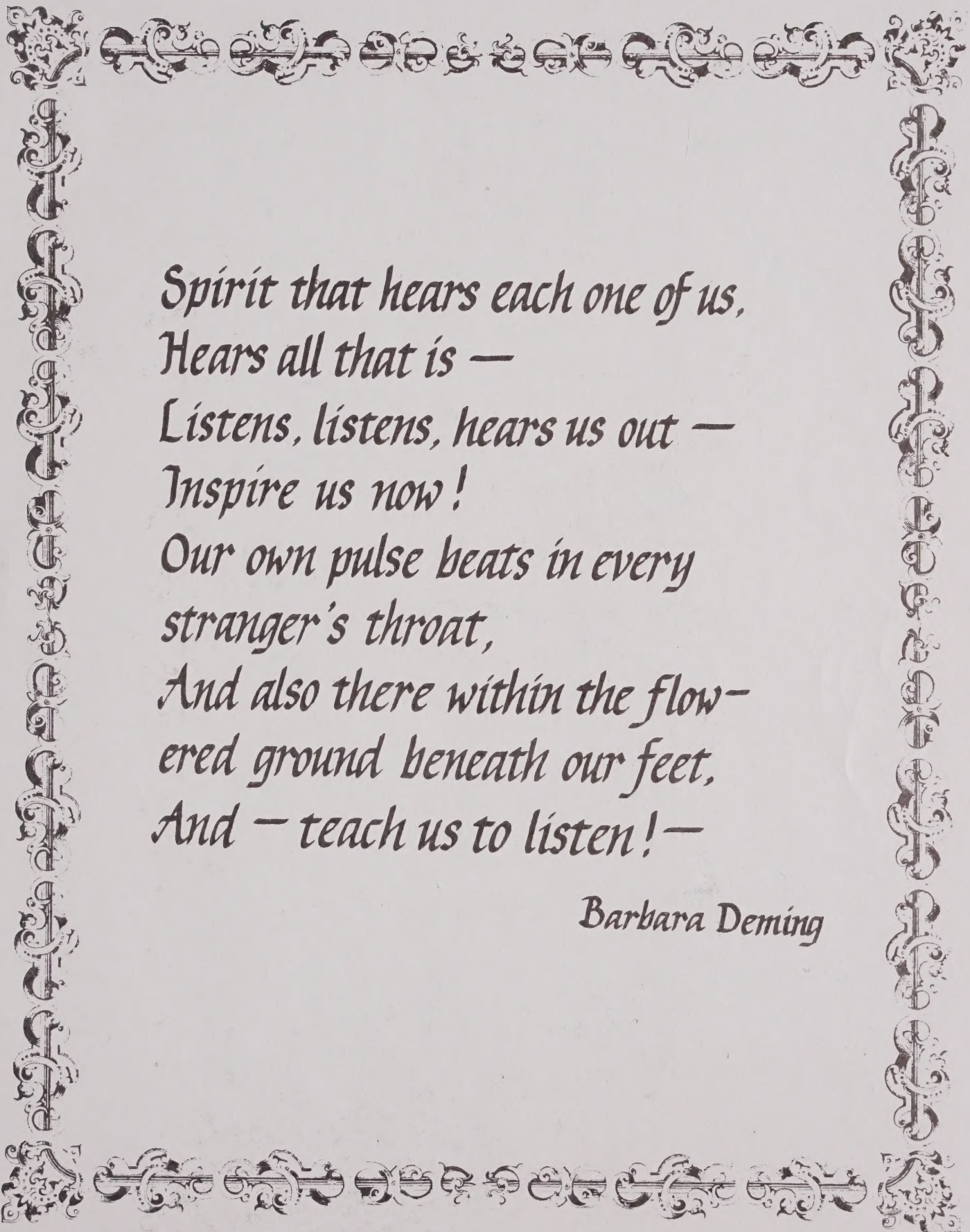
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Thank You!



*Spirit that hears each one of us,
Hears all that is —
Listens, listens, hears us out —
Inspire us now!
Our own pulse beats in every
stranger's throat,
And also there within the flow-
ered ground beneath our feet,
And — teach us to listen! —*

Barbara Deming

INCARCERATION

can be

DEVASTATING!



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